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INTERNATIONAL

VIEWS ON DISARMAMENT, DETENTE DISCUSSED

Moscow POLITICHESKOYE SAMOOBRAZOVANIYE in Russian No 5, May 81 (signed to press 23 Apr 81) pp 39-48

[Article by V. Petrovskiy: "Soviet Initiatives--A Guidepost on the Path toward Curbing the Arms Race"; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface]

[Text] Long live the peace-loving Leninist foreign policy of the Soviet Union!

Let the initiatives put forward by the 26th CPSU Congress directed toward strengthening peace and national security be brought to full fruition!

From the appeals of the CPSU Central Committee

Because it considers an effort to prevent war to constitute the task of tasks of its foreign policy, the Soviet Union has been unfailing in pointing to concrete guideposts oriented toward curbing the arms race and achieving real disarmament. The congresses of the party and the plenums and Politburo of the Central Committee are the generators of new ideas and proposals. The peace program proclaimed by the 24th and 25th Congresses and further elaborated by the 26th CPSU Congress provides a reliable compass in the struggle to eliminate the threat of war and check the arms race. "A key direction of the foreign-policy effort of the party and the government," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev declared from the platform of the 26th CPSU Congress, "has been and remains the struggle to reduce the threat of war and curb the arms race."

The Soviet Union has always been found in the vanguard of the effort to limit armaments and to redirect that effort toward the achievement of real disarmament. Over the past 35 years it has put forward more than 120 proposals on key questions concerning the strengthening of international security and curbing the arms race alone. "Indeed," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev has observed, "there is no country which in recent years would have come before all mankind with such a broad range of concrete and realistic initiatives concerning the most important problems of international relations as has the Soviet Union." While introducing new proposals for disarmament and limiting the arms race, the Soviet Union at the same time considers it necessary that ongoing political processes preserve what has already been accomplished through joint efforts so as to maintain the continuity of new ideas along with those advanced previously.

The proposals our country has put forward in recent years taken together constitute a comprehensive program for limiting and halting entirely any further quantitative and qualitative increases in armaments and armed forces, primarily those of countries possessing great military potential. This program, which proposes specific steps in all

areas, is distinguished by its realism, careful balance and constructiveness. Soviet proposals do not one iota disturb the present relationship of forces, so that with their realization no one would lose; on the contrary, all would gain in equal measure--countries which are major military powers as well as those which are not.

The 26th CPSU Congress reiterated that Soviet proposals for strengthening international security and limiting the arms race still hold good and at the same time put forward new initiatives in this direction concerning the most urgent, burning problems of international life. "...The new measures we have proposed," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev declared at the 26th CPSU Congress, "encompass a broad range of issues. They concern both nuclear missiles and conventional weapons and ground, naval and air forces. They touch upon the situation in Europe and in the Near, Middle and Far East. They include measures both political and military in nature. One single goal unifies all these proposals, our one common desire--and that is to do everything possible to remove the peoples from under the threat of nuclear war and to preserve peace on Earth."

Advancing in a single front with the Soviet Union in the struggle for arms limitation and a redirection of efforts toward real disarmament are the countries of the socialist commonwealth. The conferences of the Political Consultative Committee and meetings of the Committee of Foreign Ministers of the Warsaw Treaty member states and conversations between Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and leaders of the fraternal socialist countries are important guideposts on the path toward closer cooperation in pursuit of a consistent line on curbing and holding back the arms race. Proposals put forward by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries provide points of support for the nonaligned movement and broad groups in society in capitalist countries.

In coming out with their peaceloving initiatives, the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are far from claiming any monopoly in this area. On the contrary, they would point to the importance of the contribution of all governments and peoples to the cause of detente and disarmament and continually stress their readiness to look at all ideas put forward on this score. But if nevertheless many of the proposals advanced by the Soviet Union and the socialist and aligned countries remain unrealized despite their approval by the majority of countries of the world, the blame for this lies upon those imperialist and hegemonist forces which have made the stockpiling of weapons a profitable business and the primary substance and design of their policy.

Remove the Nuclear Threat

Occupying a central place among the Soviet Union's constructive proposals, which have as their objective the ridding of mankind of the threat of nuclear war, is a /series of measures directed toward halting and then reversing the nuclear arms race/, abolishing and dismantling means of waging nuclear war and at the same time toward renunciation of the use of force in international relations. The importance of these measures is obvious. Nuclear weapons pose the greatest danger for mankind in our day.

According to estimates widely circulating in the West, the number of nuclear warheads of all types now totals some 50,000. Their total yield is calculated at 15 million kilotons of TNT, that is, a million times greater than the yield of a Hiroshima-type bomb, which took 240,000 human lives. But nuclear weapons continue to be stockpiled despite this. US military plans call for a steady increase in the number of nuclear warheads and means of delivery, further increases in their destructive force and their siting in more and more different locations. This fact in itself intensifies the threat of their use. But this is not the extent of the danger. The fact is that newer, more

dangerous types of nuclear weapons are being developed which to an ever decreasing extent would lend themselves to mutual monitoring and, accordingly, to their agreed-upon limitation. Moreover, the nuclear arms buildup is being accompanied in the US by a shift in military-political thinking, which is now emphasizing preventive nuclear strikes and the waging of nuclear war with the employment of increasingly sophisticated and precision-guided weapons.

Now on the agenda of international negotiations is the Soviet Union's proposal for a radical solution to the problem of nuclear weapons. The 26th CPSU Congress called attention to this proposal once again. The point here is not simply a ban on nuclear weapons, but their complete elimination from national arsenals and a changeover to the use of nuclear energy for exclusively peaceful purposes.

This problem is extraordinarily complex, including when looked at from the purely technical point of view. It is important, however, at least to begin to make some practical headway. So proceeding on this basis, the Soviet Union in 1978 put forward a proposal for the cessation of the production of all types of nuclear weapons and the gradual reduction of reserves until they have been entirely, "100 per cent," destroyed. Parallel to the process of limiting nuclear weapons it calls for steps to be taken to strengthen political and international legal national security guarantees, by, among other things, the conclusion of a Universal Treaty of Renunciation of the Use of Force in International Relations. This would create a situation in which a reduction of nuclear weapons would not adversely affect the security of a single country.

Task number one is now immediately to begin consultations to the end of preparing practical negotiations on this issue. A worsening of the international situation not only does not remove this important task from the agenda, but on the contrary makes it even more urgent and necessary. There are thus entirely sufficient reasons for beginning these negotiations immediately. Only one thing is lacking--political will on the part of four of the five nuclear countries to take concrete steps to rid mankind of the nuclear sword of Damocles hanging over it.

In coming out for a radical solution involving a permanent ban on nuclear weapons with their removal from national arsenals along with a simultaneous ban on the employment of force generally, the Soviet Union at the same time considers it necessary to take selective measures capable of limiting the nuclear arms race and one after another to close off the channels through which they are deployed. A /complete and universal halt to the testing of nuclear weapons/ is of primary importance among them. Conclusion of a treaty on this score would mean that no country would conduct any more test explosions of nuclear weapons and, accordingly, that it would be impossible to improve or redevelop any kind of nuclear weapon.

The Soviet Union's constructive approach has made it possible to move ahead on a number of issues of essential importance for such a treaty. As was pointed out at the 26th CPSU Congress, "much progress has been made in negotiations with the US and England toward a total ban on nuclear weapons tests." But in contrast to the constructive line taken by the Soviet Union, the position adopted by the United States of America and Great Britain has of late been characterized by increasing inconsistency. The numerous zigzags in the line followed by the Western partners is the main reason the negotiations have been prolonged.

The 35th session of the UN General Assembly has come out categorically in support of the Soviet Union's appeal for the earliest possible conclusion of an international

treaty providing for a complete and universal ban on the testing of nuclear weapons and declared in favor of assigning this issue top priority in a program of measures to limit the nuclear arms race.

The Soviet Union attaches prime importance for reducing the threat of nuclear war to /halting any further growth in national strategic nuclear arsenals followed by a steady quantitative reduction and qualitative limitations on strategic nuclear weapon systems./ The state of affairs in this area, which touches the very bases of the military strength of the USSR and the US, the two strongest military powers, impacts most directly not only on Soviet-American relations, but upon the international situation as a whole and other negotiations to limit the arms race as well.

The first agreements of this type between the USSR and the US, which were signed in Moscow in 1972, the Treaty Limiting Antiballistic Missile Systems (ABM) and the Interim Agreement on Certain Measures with Respect to the Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (SALT-1), reflected the balance of strategic forces of the USSR and the US and placed certain obstacles in the path of an intensification of their nuclear confrontation.

The Treaty Between the USSR and USA Limiting Strategic Offensive Arms (SALT-2), which was signed after many years of high-level efforts in Vienna on 18 June 1979, was to be the next major step in this direction. The nations expected that as soon as the SALT-2 treaty went into force negotiations would be started further to limit and reduce strategic weapons. But the SALT-2 treaty has still not gone into effect through the fault of the United States of America.

The Soviet Union has consistently advocated restraint with respect to strategic arms. It is as heretofore prepared to participate in the process of limiting and reducing these weapons with strict adherence to the principle of parity and equal security. "The limitation of strategic weapons and then their reduction," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev declared at the 26th CPSU Congress, "is an extraordinary problem. /We for our part are prepared without delay to continue appropriate negotiations with the US with the preservation of everything positive hitherto accomplished in this respect./ These negotiations, of course, can be conducted only on a basis of parity and equal security. We will not enter into any agreement which would give the US a one-sided advantage. There should be no illusions on this score. In our view, all other nuclear powers should at the appropriate time be brought into these negotiations as well."

It was declared from the platform of the congress that the Soviet Union is prepared to negotiate a limitation on the deployment of new submarines, of the US Ohio class and similar ones of the USSR, and a prohibition of the modernization of ballistic missiles currently carried by these submarines as well as of the development of new ones.

The Soviet Union considers /prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons on our planet/ a major long-term task entailed in removing the threat of nuclear war. Nonproliferation and halting the nuclear arms race are two aspects of the problem of removing the nuclear threat. If the nuclear arms race represents the quantitative and qualitative sides of the problem, nonproliferation touches upon its spatial aspect. It comes as no coincidence that the tasks of halting the nuclear arms race and preventing the spread of nuclear weapons over the planet are considered as of equal importance in the summary report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 26th Party Congress.

The Soviet Union was one of the main initiators and participants in the work involved in drawing up the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons. One hundred

thirteen states have adhered to this treaty since it entered into force in 1970, and it has provided a basis for an international regime of nuclear weapons nonproliferation. A number of countries, however, have declined to adhere to the treaty; and such countries as the Republic of South Africa, Israel and Pakistan, rejecting the appeal of a majority of the countries of the world, are openly pursuing a course toward development of nuclear weapons. Making this problem especially acute is the accelerated process by which an increasing number of countries are developing a scientific-technical and industrial nuclear potential, particularly the rapid development of nuclear power and international trade in nuclear materials, facilities and technology.

The USSR is a convinced advocate of the establishment of effective monitoring of nuclear exports, including deliveries not only of nuclear materials and facilities but of nuclear technology as well. We are in favor of the application of the strictest guarantees so that international cooperation in the area of the peaceful use of atomic energy will not become a conduit for the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

One important measure, implementation of which would without doubt reduce the threat of nuclear war and help strengthen the nonproliferation regime, a measure proposed by the USSR, would be the /conclusion of an international convention strengthening guarantees of the security of nonnuclear countries./ The USSR has declared officially that it will never employ nuclear weapons against countries renouncing the production and acquisition of these weapons and which do not have them on their territory.

The Soviet Union proposes immediate resolution of the issue of the /nondeployment of nuclear weapons in those countries where they are not now deployed./ Conclusion of an agreement like this would be an important step toward restraining the nuclear arms race and reduce the danger of war. The basis of the proposed understanding would be a clear and simple obligation on the part of the nuclear powers not to deploy nuclear weapons in countries where they are not currently deployed regardless of whether these countries stand in an alliance relationship with one nuclear power or another.

Our country has also taken the initiative in putting forward the idea of the /establishment of nuclear-free zones/, an idea it proposed as early as the mid-1950s and one which it has since continued vigorously to advocate. The USSR looks upon the creation of such zones as one of the measures which would strengthen the regime of nuclear weapons nonproliferation, reduce the threat of nuclear war and relax regional military tensions.

Following its basic line, the USSR in 1978 signed and ratified Supplementary Protocol II of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapons in Latin America. The CPSU Central Committee's summary report to the 26th Party Congress once again expressed our country's support for the proposal to declare Africa and the Near East nuclear-free zones along with Latin America. The Soviet Union also declares its readiness to participate in a constructive discussion of proposals for the creation of a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe and together with other nuclear powers to act as a guarantor of its status if countries potentially adhering to such an agreement express their interest in one.

The overwhelming majority of UN member countries continually express themselves in favor of the establishment of nuclear-free zones and adopt General Assembly resolutions to this effect. But this problem remains unresolved.

A Ban on Weapons of Mass Destruction

The nuclear arms race is not all that threatens mankind with war. The employment of other types of weapons of mass destruction, weapons of great destructive force, may also have catastrophic consequences. That is why the USSR is a firm advocate of a ban or limitation on these means of waging war as well.

As early as the beginning of the 1970's, the Soviet Union in close cooperation with a number of other countries put forward the proposal for conclusion of an international convention /banning the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons and providing for the destruction of reserve stocks of such weapons./ It is engaged in negotiations on this issue on a bilateral basis with the US and participating in discussions of this subject in the Committee on Disarmament. Negotiations with the US have made substantial progress to date. Basic agreement has been reached that a future convention banning chemical weapons should, as the Soviet Union and other socialist countries have proposed from the very beginning, pursue the objectives of a complete ban on the development, production and buildup of all types of chemical weapons and the destruction of stockpiles of such weapons. The USSR and US have agreed that compliance with the provisions of this convention should be subject to adequate verification. The parties have also reached agreement on a number of specific issues associated with a declaration of each country's stockpiles of chemical weapons and their means of production and then with their destruction. But negotiations to remove chemical weapons from national arsenals--and this was stated at the 26th CPSU Congress--are proceeding intolerably slowly.

The Soviet Union is convinced that on the basis of the serious work already accomplished these negotiations can quickly be brought to a successful conclusion. The monitoring problem need be no stumbling block. It can be successfully solved by the employment of national means of verification along with well-planned international procedures.

Our country has consistently come out in favor of making it entirely impossible to replenish national arsenals /with new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction./ As early as 1975 the Soviet Union was proposing the conclusion of a /comprehensive agreement/ banning the development and production of new types and systems of such weapons and putting forward a draft agreement, which was then supplemented in 1977. This draft contains provisions banning new means of mass destruction; it binds signatory countries not to develop or produce new types or systems of such weapons and establishes a procedure for verifying compliance with provisions of the agreement through consultations and the involvement of the UN Security Council.

While coming out for a comprehensive ban on new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction, the Soviet Union is at the same time prepared to negotiate individual agreements banning specific new types of such weapons. The USSR has done everything possible in this connection to draw up jointly with the US a draft treaty banning the development, production, stockpiling and use of /radiological weapons/, that is, weapons destroying living organisms with radioactive radiation produced by the nonexplosive disintegration of radioactive material. The CPSU Central Committee's summary report to the 26th Party Congress included preliminary agreement on basic provisions of a treaty banning radiological weapons among positive factors. This draft treaty is now under consideration in the Committee on Disarmament. The USSR sees no reason for work on the draft treaty not to be completed in the immediate future. Together with the Convention Banning Bacteriological Weapons, conclusion of this treaty would constitute a substantial step forward in the disarmament process and be of great political importance as a stimulus to further concrete measures limiting the arms race.

The Soviet Union proposes urgent measures to prevent the development and deployment of /neutron weapons/, which are a particularly cruel type of weapon of mass destruction.

We on the Soviet side have declared that the USSR will not proceed with the production of neutron weapons if the United States does not take this step. This remains our position. The USSR has always believed that the best solution would be to ban neutron weapons by treaty and on an international scale. From the platform of the 26th Party

Congress Comrade L. I. Brezhnev once again declared that we will not begin production of neutron weapons if they do not make their appearance in the arsenals of other countries and are prepared to conclude an agreement banning this weapon once and for all.

Curb the Arms Race on the Regional Level

Within the context of measures to halt the arms race and disarm on a regional level the Soviet Union attaches particular importance to /Europe/, which has in the past been the detonator of two world wars taking 65 million human lives and remains today a concentration of troops and military hardware exceeding 20-fold the average level worldwide.

An important path to solution of the problem of the relaxation of military tensions and disarmament on the European continent was marked out by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe convened upon the initiative of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

In accordance with the Final Act of this conference, all participating states assumed the obligation by all possible means to promote the process of detente and to work for the achievement of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international supervision. The decisions of the general European conference were in fact directed toward making the whole of Europe a zone of peace.

The all-Europe conference also discussed and positively resolved the question of confidence-building measures. Put into effect for the first time on an international legal basis have been such confidence-building measures as prior announcement of military ground-training exercises and the invitation to them of observers from other countries. While not in the strict sense actions limiting the arms race, these measures nevertheless do serve the preventive ends of preventing the emergence of centers of military conflict and helping eliminate suspiciousness in connection with the military activities of different countries.

The agreements recorded in the Final Act of the all-European conference on confidence-building measures are now being put into effect. They are now in force on the territory of the countries of Europe including a 250-kilometer-wide zone of the USSR along its western border. The Soviet Union and the socialist countries have declared their readiness to go farther--to announce large military exercises conducted within the area defined by the Final Act not from the level of 25,000 men, but from the level of 20,000 men and not for three weeks, but for a month; to announce ground-force movements involving 20,000 or more men; to announce large air exercises within this region and major naval exercises conducted by some countries participating in the all-European conference in the vicinity of the territorial waters of others and to limit the scale of military exercises to the level of 40-50,000 personnel.

The CPSU Central Committee's summary report to the 26th Party Congress also put forward an important new proposal concerning confidence-building measures--a proposal to expand the zone of application of these measures. /"We are prepared,"/ Comrade L. I. Brezhnev declared, /"to extend them to the entire European part of the USSR--provided the Western countries correspondingly expand their zone of confidence-building measures."/ In this connection the Soviet Union considers the US and Canada participants in the Helsinki agreements along with the European countries. It is therefore necessary for all participating countries to assume equivalent obligations in connection with the relaxation of military tension and disarmament in Europe. There should be no privileges here for individual countries whose armed forces constitute part of the general equilibrium of the balance of military forces in Europe.

The Soviet Union and other socialist countries have consistently come out for continuity in the process of detente set in motion by the all-European conference and for effective steps to relax military tension on the continent of Europe. Special importance is to be attached in this connection to the /convocation of a conference on military detente and disarmament in Europe/ as an essential component of the development of a general European process leading to a consolidation and strengthening of security on the continent.

The issue of the convocation of such a conference has now moved onto the practical plane. The Soviet Union and other socialist countries see as entirely realistic a decision in Madrid in favor of calling a conference on military detente and disarmament. This requires only one thing--political will and a sense of responsibility for the fate of peace in Europe on the part of all participants in the meeting.

Another important path to military detente and disarmament is to be found in /mutual reduction of armed forces and arms in the central part of the European continent/, which occupies a key position from a strategic point of view because it possesses a highly developed system of all means of transport and communication connecting it with practically all other countries and regions of Europe as well as with the rest of the world. A military conflict in central Europe could easily engulf every other part of the continent, especially if we consider the range of today's nuclear and conventional weapons.

From the very beginning of the negotiations on this issue in Vienna the Soviet Union, in close cooperation with other socialist countries sought to give them a businesslike, purposeful character and to make possible the drawing up and conclusion of an effective agreement mutually reducing armed forces and arms in Central Europe. The compromise proposals put forward by the USSR and its allies in 1980 open up realistic short-term prospects for the conclusion of a first-stage agreement providing for reduction of ground forces and arms in central Europe on the part of the USSR and the US and for "freezing" the strength of the armed forces in this region of other direct participants in the negotiations. These peace initiatives have been backed up by practical steps. The Soviet Union's unilateral withdrawal of 20,000 military personnel, 1,000 tanks and other military equipment from GDR territory can serve as a dramatic example.

But the NATO countries obstinately refuse to go for mutual reduction of forces and arms in Europe, a position dictated by their general policy of intensifying military preparations. By sidestepping the key issues involved in the negotiations and avoiding any constructive response to the proposals put forward by the socialist countries, the West is seeking to shift in its favor the balance of military forces in the center of the European continent. For more than six years now the West has refused to accept even such a simple, straightforward proposal as that calling for a cap on troop strength on the part of all participants for the period during which negotiations are under way. We might ask those enthusiastically conjuring the myth of the so-called "Soviet threat" just who in fact it is that has an interest in creating a military threat, from whose side might we anticipate one. If the NATO countries continue to drag out the Vienna negotiations while at the same time increasing their military potential in Europe, then as stated in the CPSU Central Committee summary report, we will have to take this fact into consideration.

In the view of the USSR, the present world situation requires greater efforts, to include those made within the context of the Vienna negotiations as well, to remove the threat of war and strengthen international security.

In consequence of NATO's dangerous moves to undermine the military balance in Europe, the question of /nuclear weapons on this continent/ has lately become particularly

acute. In 1979 the Soviet Union declared its readiness to reduce the number of medium-range nuclear missiles deployed in the western regions of the USSR if no more such weapons were deployed in Western Europe. The refusal of the US and its allies to accept this proposal and NATO's decision to produce and deploy new American medium-range missiles in a number of West European countries have understandably seriously complicated the situation in Europe.

A year later, in 1980, the Soviet Union, guided by the interests of peace and security, put forward a new proposal--to discuss simultaneously and in organic relation to one another the issues concerning both medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe and forward-based American nuclear weapons. It is to be borne in mind in this regard that any possible agreements on these issues may be realized in practice only after implementation of the Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT-2). This proposal was submitted for discussion during the Soviet-American negotiations on the limitation of nuclear arms in Europe, the first round of which was held in October-November 1980. An important new proposal was put forward at the 26th CPSU Congress. /"We propose,"/ Comrade L. I. Brezhnev declared, /"that negotiations be opened to establish an immediate moratorium on the deployment in Europe of new medium-range nuclear missiles by both the NATO countries and the USSR, that is, to freeze these weapons at their current level both quantitatively and qualitatively, including, of course, US forward-based nuclear weapons in this region."/

Thanks to the vigorous and persistent efforts of the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries during recent years we have not only marked out the paths leading to military detente and disarmament in Europe but have also begun to move in the direction of the agreed-upon goals. No few difficulties lie ahead, of course. It is therefore exceptionally important that movement in all areas toward relaxation of military tension and disarmament in Europe not be interrupted, that it be continuously accelerated and that it become increasingly efficient.

Also becoming a problem of great urgency in recent years has been that of /strengthening security and relaxing military tension in the Indian Ocean region/, along the shores of which live peoples who have liberated themselves from colonial domination. Their right to a peaceful, tranquil life and their desire to concentrate their efforts and resources on the economic and social development of their countries have been called into question by the sharply increased military presence and military activity of the US and some of its allies in the Indian Ocean region, particularly by the establishment of military bases there, among them the large US naval and air force base on the island of Diego Garcia.

The Soviet Union is striving consistently to relieve tensions in the Indian Ocean, to eliminate any manifestations of an arms race in this region and to extend the process of detente throughout this area as well. The real way to achieve this end is to transform the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace in accordance with the proposal of the littoral states and the UN declaration. In the view of the USSR, /transformation of the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace/ requires, first of all, a solution of the problem of limiting and reducing the level of the military presence and military activity of the littoral states in the region of the world, the removal from the area of all foreign military bases without exception and preventing the Indian Ocean from being transformed into a launching pad for nuclear missiles and for an imperialist diktat imposed upon the peoples in this part of the world.

The Soviet Union supports the UN decision to hold an international conference on the Indian Ocean in Colombo (Sri Lanka) in 1981. It is participating actively in preparations for the conference and is ready to cooperate with other countries in transforming

the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace. In the view of the Soviet Union, considering the current state of affairs the convocation of this conference is becoming an increasingly urgent matter.

Bearing heavily upon the problem of strengthening security and relaxing tension in the Indian Ocean is that of /preserving peace in the Persian Gulf./

Under the pretext of securing its sea lanes, the US military machine is actively working its way into the Persian Gulf and preparing for a prolonged period of deployment there. The increasing American military presence here runs contrary to the will of the peoples of this region, generates tension and creates the threat of dangerous military conflicts.

References by the US and its allies to the need to insure the security of their flow of oil through the Indian Ocean are completely groundless. The security of sea lanes can be insured by reducing, not increasing, the level of military presence. This constitutes the basis for the proposals Comrade L. I. Brezhnev put forward in Dehli on 10 December 1980 concerning measures to stabilize the situation in the Persian Gulf region and maintain the security of the sea lanes passing through it.

The Soviet Union proposes negotiations with the US and other Western countries, China, Japan and all countries demonstrating an interest in the matter on commitments, which would contribute to the elimination of sources of tension and the military danger in the Persian Gulf region, not to establish foreign military bases there, not to resort to threats to employ force, not to deploy nuclear weapons of mass destruction or any other kind of weapons and to respect the sovereignty of the states of the region and the nonaligned status they have chosen. It has also been proposed that mutual obligations be assumed not to create any obstacles or threats to normal trade or to the use of the sea lanes linking the countries of this region to those in other parts of the world.

Explaining Soviet proposals dealing with the problem of /effective means of maintaining peace in the Persian Gulf region and in the approaches to it/, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev declared at the 26th CPSU Congress: "Instead of assembling more and more naval and air fleets there and pouring in increasing numbers of troops and weapons, we are proposing that the military threat be removed there with the conclusion of an international agreement. Through joint efforts and consideration for the legitimate interests of all parties it will be possible to create a stable and peaceful situation in this region. It will be possible to guarantee the sovereign rights of the countries in the region as well as the security of the sea and other lines of communication linking it with the rest of the world. This is what the proposals recently put forward by the Soviet Union purport to accomplish."

The Soviet initiative has received widespread support throughout the world, including among a number of countries in the Persian Gulf. It met, however, with a negative reaction on the part of the governments of the US and the other NATO countries. The hope was expressed at the 26th CPSU Congress that "they would think this whole matter over calmly and without preconceptions so that together we might search for a solution acceptable to all."

In an effort to add new momentum to solution of the problem of stabilizing the situation in the Persian Gulf region, the 26th CPSU Congress introduced important new proposals in addition to those already put forward. In response to statements that these proposals could not be separated from the question of the presence of the Soviet military contingent in Afghanistan, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev declared: /"We would not object

to discussing matters connected with Afghanistan in conjunction with the problems of security in the Persian Gulf./ Such discussions could, of course, consider only the international aspects of the Afghan problem and not internal Afghan affairs. The sovereignty of Afghanistan must be fully maintained as well as its status as a nonaligned country."

Recent events have again confirmed the pressing importance of taking effective steps to reduce the military danger in the Persian Gulf region.

The Soviet Union--and this was stated at the 26th CPSU Congress-- supports the idea of making /Southeast Asia a zone of peace/ as proposed by countries of the region.

Finally in connection with the /Far East/, where such powers as the USSR, the US and Japan find themselves neighbors and American military bases are located, the Soviet Union proposes the opening of concrete negotiations on steps to build confidence among all interested countries. As was stated in the CPSU Central Committee's summary report to the 26th Party Congress, "the negotiation and implementation of confidence-building measures in this region, taking its particular characteristics into account, of course, could not only relax tension in the immediate area but also be a highly beneficial contribution to the strengthening of the foundations of universal peace."

Soviet proposals for curbing the arms race on a regional level point to concrete, workable means of stabilizing the situation and averting crises in different dangerously explosive parts of the world.

The 26th CPSU Congress emphasized that for no nation on the planet is there today a matter more essential, more critical than maintaining the peace and securing the most fundamental right of every human being--the right to life. With the mobilization of sufficient will and energy by peaceloving forces, and with these forces solidly united, it will be possible to maintain and strengthen the peace and to preserve and multiply the fruits of detente.

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ANALYSIS OF REAGAN'S DOMESTIC POLICIES

Moscow MIROVAYA EKONOMIKA I MEZHDUNARODNYYE OTNOSHENIYA in Russian No 5, May 81
(signed to press 27 Apr 81) pp 115-119

[Article by Yu. Oleshchuk: "R. Reagan's Domestic Policy: Tilt to the Right"]

[Excerpts] When in the United States a new administration makes known the plans of its activity, this invariably gives rise to a noisy reaction in the country. The noise is frequently of a contrived nature, it is true, and specially exaggerated by politicians. But the loud arguments currently being conducted around the Reaganadministration's domestic program do not fit in the contrived category. The administration's intention to move along an avowedly reactionary path in a number of key areas of social and economic policy is causing alarm and dissension in the most diverse strata of American society.

I

In the 1970's, particularly in the latter half, in the face of an unusual combination of problems--crisis, energy difficulties, unemployment, inflation--the entire set of resources of socioeconomic policy based on persistent federal intervention in economic processes (so-called "liberalism"), which had been accumulated and tried since F. Roosevelt's time, failed. Such classic prescriptions of this policy as boosting the economy by the extension of federal spending and measures to increase demand, the use of these same methods for the absorption of unemployment, the increased scale of federal regulation in the business sphere, the intensive pursuit of a policy of social maneuvering--and all this was employed by the Republican administrations of R. Nixon and G. Ford and J. Carter's Democratic administration--produced practically nothing, and by the end of the 1970's the country's situation remained just as, if not more serious.

Bourgeois political thought and theory worked at full capacity, attempting to select and develop new concepts of the solution of problems which proved so unresponsive to the previous methods. But no significant result was achieved. The whole point is that the tools of the bourgeois state have proven incapable of providing answers to the complications, which are multiplying and assuming a new appearance, engendered by the very development of modern capitalism. The growing crisis of the capitalist system is also manifested, inter alia, in the fact that the gap between the problems and the possibilities of coping with them is becoming increasingly profound.

Seeing no other way out, a considerable proportion of bourgeois circles has turned under these conditions to an avowedly reactionary policy. There has been a very pronounced political shift to the right in recent years. It has been expressed primarily in a corresponding shift of the center of gravity in both main parties of monopoly capital--Democratic and Republican. In the latter, as a consequence of its generally more conservative nature, it has been particularly sharply expressed and far-reaching and has led to a manifest strengthening of far-right currents.

The "shift to the right" in the ruling class was the political point of departure of R. Reagan's struggle for power in 1980 and of the present attempt of his administration to pull the rudder to the right on social and economic issues to an even greater extent than the J. Carter administration.

II

The goals of the "conservative counterrevolution" were expounded in Reagan's campaign speeches and the Republican Party platform. It was primarily a question of creating the most favorable conditions possible for business, abolishing even the individual, exceptional restrictions which resulted for it from federal regulation. Exclusive service of businessmen's interests was to be the principal of the latter. A restructuring and to some extent the curtailment of the regulatory functions of government and also a reduction in individual and corporate taxes effected such as to ensure that the pockets of the capitalists were stuffed even fuller were scheduled. Simultaneously a far-reaching offensive against the rights and interests of the working people and abandonment of the tactics of maneuver employed in respect of the worker and negro movements and their replacement with undisguised opposition to their demands were planned.

On 18 February the Reagan administration took the first major step in implementation of this plan. On this day the President addressed a joint session of Congress and set forth the administration's program of action in the economic, social and budgetary spheres. He spoke primarily of the need for a considerable reduction in the budget. This was a calculated maneuver.

An offensive against the working people's living standard was launched under the flag of streamlining the "uncontrolled" and "ruinous" budget. Social spending was the main victim of the reduced appropriations. Huge sums were withdrawn from various social programs.

Even many bourgeois press organs have admitted that the poorest strata of the population are the involuntary donors of this budgetary bloodletting.

But the administration deemed even this bloodletting insufficient. New reductions in the appropriations for social purposes were added to the budget for the 1982 fiscal year sent to Congress on 10 March, as a consequence of which the budget "savings" increased by a further several billion dollars, and the number of social programs affected rose to 300.

The President's proposed tax reductions inflicted a second heavy blow on low-income Americans.

The assurances of Reagan and other administration officials that the tax reduction would benefit all equally were unable to conceal the fact that it is the wealthy strata which gain almost exclusively from this measure. It is sufficient to say that a family of four with an annual income of \$100,000 would have one-fourth as much disposable income as hitherto. At the same time the same-sized family with an annual income of less than \$15,000 would obtain only 5 percent more disposable income. If we add to this the fact that thanks to a tax reduction the corporations would in 1986 derive almost \$60 billion more profit, the picture becomes perfectly clear.*

The administration is hatching plans for a further offensive against the working people's gains. As reported in the press, certain social programs may be handed over to the states, which would be tantamount to their curtailment insofar as the states' financial resources are not commensurate with federal resources. Plans are being prepared under the cover of the "getting government off the people's back" slogan for a revision of the various forms of federal intervention in conflicts between labor and capital (arbitration, mediation and conciliation procedures). Despite their entire thrust in defense of the businessmen's interests, in a number of instances these forms of intervention were nevertheless employed by the unions to defend their rights also. The reduced activity of the corresponding government bodies will undoubtedly lead to the workers increasingly being left face-to-face with the monopolies. Nor, it is believed, have new tax privileges for the rich been ruled out.

Representatives of the administration claim that next year even inflation will fall to 8.3 percent and will constitute 5.5 percent by 1984; the budget will be in balance by then; and the rate of economic growth will rise to an annual 4-5 percent, beginning 1982.** However, ordinary Americans have long known full well the value of administration promises, and the latest round of high-sounding promises is deceiving hardly anyone. The administration's optimistic forecasts are not, incidentally, shared by the majority of experts.

III

A proposition is being pushed persistently in the United States currently in accordance with which the Reagan administration received from the country some kind of "mandate" for the implementation of reactionary economic and social measures and that the latter have broad public support.

Attempts to prove this proposition are made primarily by reference to the outcome of the election. The fact that Reagan won a big victory over his rival is interpreted such that the ordinary voters had expressed support for his domestic program. But this is an incorrect conclusion. An analysis of the results of the voting convince us that voter behavior was determined by this program least of all. The

*INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, 20 February 1981.

**INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, 20 February 1981.

past election represented an instance frequent in U.S. political history of the bourgeois forces' maneuvering forcing the ordinary Americans to cast their votes for a figure not of their choice merely to ensure the defeat of another unacceptable figure. As is known, the aspiration to get rid of J. Carter at the last election was R. Reagan's principal asset. This motive, a kind of voter "cri du coeur," simply outweighed the negative attitude toward the avowedly reactionary domestic policy goals reflected in the Republicans' election platform, the more so in that at the end of the campaign Reagan himself attempted to create the impression that he did not share all of them. According to a poll conducted immediately after the election, only 11 percent of the electorate (the equivalent of 2-3 percent of the national electorate) supported Reagan because of his professed conservative views.

The fact that the President and other high officials initially stressed exceptionally strongly in their speeches and pronouncements the difficulties being experienced by the country and made no attempt to embellish reality draws attention to itself.

"Realism at the start" is generally a customary phenomenon. All recent presidents without exception--J. Kennedy, L. Johnson, R. Nixon, G. Ford, J. Carter--began their domestic policy activity with a castigation of the ulcers and deformities of the socioeconomic organism. The calculation here is a simple one: the new president thus "reverses" his own high-sounding election promises to rapidly improve the situation.

But it has to be noted that Reagan has made far more vigorous use of this "duty" method than his predecessors. Immediately following the inauguration, he literally showered the country with warnings about present and future catastrophes. The same line has also been adhered to by the members of his cabinet responsible for domestic policy, particularly OMB Director D. Stockman and Treasury Secretary D. Regan. It is obvious that the administration is resorting to the concentrated indoctrination of public opinion, endeavoring to show the public that the extraordinary nature of the situation justifies the "therapy of the radical right".

But the masses have manifestly not swallowed this bait. Broad strata of the population are opposing increasingly emphatically the measures being implemented or planned by the administration. Many union representatives have already stated their indignation at the attempt to heap the burden of expenditure on stimulating the economy on the shoulders of the low-income strata. Increasingly loud voices of protest are being heard from the ranks of the negro organizations representing the section of the population which the administration's program condemns to an even more wretched existence than before.

It is indicative that, according to the data of public opinion polls, the number of people dissatisfied with the administration increased sharply after the economic and social program was made public.

The particular indignation of the democratic community is aroused by the fact that the working people's interests are being sacrificed with unconcealed cynicism to militarism. The appetites of the military-industrial complex have always ended in additional distress for millions of not very prosperous Americans. But the

administration has shown a willingness to pay for the Pentagon's ambitions at the expense of the masses so openly and on such a scale that this may be considered a kind of record mark of the "guns before butter" policy.

Critics from the camp of the scientific community point out that the administration's economic philosophy smacks of ignorance. The White House is counting on a tax reduction providing businessmen with an incentive to be more active, while a reduction in the deficit will help slacken the inflation process. But it is reasonably pointed out by those who disagree with this viewpoint that the disarray of the American economic system has been caused by a whole set of factors. For this reason, they believe, budgetary and tax measures will be ineffective. Furthermore, the administration itself has added a new twist to the inflationary spiral by decontrolling oil prices.

Many representatives of the ruling class are also seriously worried by the fact that the "conservative counterrevolution" is dangerous in the social plane for it is capable of bringing about increased tension in society and pushing the masses toward acute forms of struggle. It is not fortuitous that shortly after the administration's program was made public a number of Democratic congressmen hastened to declare in a special television appearance that they would attempt to prevent approval of the administration's legislative proposals which all too avowedly flout the working people's interests. The Democratic faction of the House of Representatives is expressing its intention to strive for a revision of the tax-reduction bill in order to distribute the benefits therefrom somewhat more evenly over the whole spectrum of social strata.*

According to TIME magazine, Reagan's proclaimed action program has caused anxiety not only in circles of his political opponents but also among a number of figures of the conservative camp.**

At the same time the widespread skepticism has not yet led to the emergence of an organized and active campaign of opposition in the ranks of the ruling class. The Democrats, who, as the opposition, would, it would seem, be interested in such a campaign and who are politically capable of conducting it (many figures remain in their ranks who have resisted the drift to the right), are currently—to speak of the party as a whole—behaving quite passively. This is explained by the fact that they do not have a program which would unite them themselves and help carry public forces with them. Blank impasse of bourgeois policy and theory—such is the diagnosis of the present domestic situation of the United States.

*See INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, 23 February 1981.

**See TIME, 23 February 1981, p 56.

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INTERNATIONAL

SUMMARIES OF ARTICLES IN 'MEMO' JOURNAL

Moscow MIROVAYA EKONOMIKA I MEZHDUNARODNYYE OTNOSHENIYA in English No 5, May 81
(signed to press 27 Apr 81) pp 158-159

[Text] The current stage of aggressive policy of the imperialist powers engenders the menace of thermonuclear war fraught with catastrophic implications for the humanity. O. Bykov in his article "Guiding Threat to the Future" stresses that the most essential human right, i.e., the right for life should be considered as an absolute priority. The attitude to this problem determines the correspondence of any policy to the most cherished hopes of all the peoples. Under the existing balance of power between the world of socialism and the world of capitalism peaceful co-existence is believed to be the only sane basis of mutual relations. No key international problem can be solved by military means. The attempts to find mutually acceptable political solutions can not be substituted by a fierce confrontation under the banners of anti-Communism and anti-Sovietism. The feverish activities of aggressive forces endanger all the positive international developments of the last decade achieved by the joint efforts of many states. That is why the initiative and concrete proposals brought up at the 26th CPSU Congress pursue the aims to stop the fly-wheel of militarist preparations, to restrict and curb the arms race, to stabilize the current military balance and to stimulate the processes, leading to detente.

The deterioration of the world situation provoked by reactionary imperialist forces is also featured by an intensification of the psychological subversion, feverish anti-Soviet and anti-Communist activities and a broad advertising of the policy of force and militarism. Yu. Nalin in the article "NATO's Ideological Sabotage against Peace and Socialism" focuses his attention on the activities of the organization, now performing the role of one of the leading centres of ideological subversion. The "psychological warfare" is considered by the imperialist leaders as a specific weapon in the struggle against the world of socialism. Describing a structural framework of the NATO propaganda service the author stresses its importance as a body, coordinating and guiding anti-Soviet activities of the bourgeois propagandists and ideologists. An analysis of the NATO ways and methods of cooperation with the system of the capitalist mass media enables the author to expose an ominous role of the "psychological warfare" specialists in the world-wide operations of deception, slander and subversion. The purposes of centrally planned diverse propaganda campaigns does not only include the undermining activities against the socialist system, they are also designed to create an atmosphere of intolerance and reactionary political pressure in the countries of the bloc.

The two last decades in economics are marked by a rapid development of prediction methods and a practical implementation of a variety of medium-term and long-range socioeconomic forecast projects. In the article "The Problems of Economic Forecasting in the Capitalist Countries" L. Gromov and E. Chetyrkin maintain that the expansion of this field of research has made it possible to work out a new widely used tool of economic and, consequently, any other policy at the most diverse levels, ranging from an individual enterprise to the United Nations Organization. Now, the economic prognostication has become an independent, adequately developed sphere of scientific and political activities. The economic forecasting is primarily focused on the determination of possible dynamics and results of development, reflected by predictable macroeconomic indicators at the national and international levels. In the capitalist world the growing importance of the medium-term and long-range forecasts is believed to be stipulated by greater uncertainty as to the course and results of the capitalist economic development, higher instability of the world dynamics, caused in particular by the intensification of the human population pressure on the environment, deeper socio-economic antagonisms and unbalanced and contradictory utilization of the scientific and technological achievements at various levels of public life. In the second part of the article the authors dwell upon the "economic barometers" and "leading indicators" techniques, they thoroughly examine the currently adopted methods of trend extrapolation, simulation and intuitive approaches, associated with the expert knowledge and now successfully formalized with the development of heuristic methods.

The growing importance of minor countries for the development of the West European centre of imperialism has attracted attention of Yu. Yudanov, O. Timashkova and L. Voronkov who in their joint article "Small Countries of Western Europe in the Modern World" examine the peculiarities of economic structures of the small European countries, specific feature of their economic and socio-political development and their role in the system of modern international relations. Having aggregated 16 small states into two groupings according to the level of their economic development, the authors note an important gap between the group of highly developed industrial countries and still industrializing states and examine the causes of such differentiation. Relatively small dimensions of national economies stipulate minor countries' active participation in the international division of labour, determining their structural characteristics and growth rates. A differentiated examination of forms and methods of interaction with the world markets enable the authors to conclude that the small European countries constitute an important component of one of the centres of imperialism and seriously influence the mode and trends of the West European economic development. The class and political structures, the conditions of the working class struggle in the small countries are also examined in the article, much attention being paid to the democratic alternative. Finally the authors discuss the political importance of the small countries, now actively participating in the modern system of international relations.

In the article "The Peculiarities of Economic Cycle in France" V. Kuznetsov examines common and specific features of and changes in the capitalist reproduction cycle in France, drawing his facts and data from the recent economic history and the current economic developments in the country. Noting the crucial importance of the 1974-1975 crisis for the whole "cyclical history" of the 70s the author points out that the crisis was caused primarily by the overproduction of invested capital and by the macroeconomic disproportions, emerged long before the actual drop in production.

A thorough analysis of various aspects of the process of reproduction including efficiency, costs, distribution, price formation and profit rates dynamics confirms the negative implications of overaccumulation and dwindling profitability for the economy. The analysis of the impact of oil prices testifies to much greater importance of internal factors for the character of economic development. External factors, including the sky-rocketing oil prices, however, have hindered the surmounting of the obstacles, created by the crisis phenomena. Discussing general features of the 1974-1980 cycle the author further stresses such factors as the restraint of private capital, uncertainty of scientific and technological policies, inadequate specialization and the complexity of the socio-economic situation that have finally caused the development of the 1980-1981 slump. The problems confronted by the economy of France in the 80s necessitate a consistent and definite economic policy that neither the private sector, nor the bourgeois government are able to secure under conditions of low rates of return, discouraging any business initiative.

"The Developing Countries and the Eurocurrencies Market" (by Yu. Ossipov and Ya. Melkumov) deals with the external financing of the young nations badly needing the capital investments' resources. At the same time a heavy foreign indebtedness and necessity to alleviate the problems of development make the liberated countries to resort to the system of private crediting, the eurocurrencies market including. Examining the scale and purposes of financial operations in Europe, the authors quote abundant data to expose the exploiting essence of the private creditors activities, they also note that the growing importance of the European market was caused rather by the need of the banks to dispose of the superfluous money capital than by the developing countries demand for hard currency. The growing indebtedness of the developing countries to private creditors as well as the expensiveness of credits necessitate new approaches to the long-term problems of credits reimbursement and utilization. The West, proposing the neocolonialist solution of the problems of external financing, strives to split the developing countries. That is why the consistent struggle for the principles of a new international economic order must be continuously waged to protect the liberated nations from the monetary and financial speculations and actions of the developed capitalist countries dominating these spheres.

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NATIONAL

BOOK ON NATIONALITIES POLICY STRESSES UNITY OF PEOPLES

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jun 81 p 2

[Review by N. Tarasenko of book "V. I. Lenin, KPSS o Sovetskom mnogonatsional'nom gosudarstve" [V. I. Lenin and the CPSU on the Soviet Multinational State], Moscow, Politizdat, 1981, 558 pages]

[Text] In December 1982 the large and friendly family of Soviet peoples will celebrate the 60th anniversary of the USSR, a multinational socialist state. As they approach this glorious anniversary, the people of the Nation of October are demonstrating the triumph of the ideals of fraternal friendship, international cooperation and unity. Personifying the grandeur of these communist ideals, the union of equal and free nationalities has matured and has flourished economically, politically and culturally. New, even broader opportunities have been afforded our multinational power and each republic by the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress.

Displaying constant concern for the harmonious development and flourishing of the USSR, the CPSU has creatively conducted Lenin's policy on nationalities. The great constructive power of this policy and its distinctive features during various stages of socialist and communist construction are analyzed thoroughly and in depth in the collective work "V. I. Lenin, KPSS o Sovetskom mnogonatsional'nom gosudarstve"

Today, from the heights of mature socialism, we have a clearer view of what Lenin and the party have done to build, develop and strengthen the USSR. The central theme of the contents of this work--including (in full or excerpted) works by Lenin, decisions of party congresses, conferences and Central Committee plenums, Central Committee decrees and the works and speeches of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev--is the following: The development of the USSR is a continuation of the cause of Great October and nationwide revolutionary reforms and the result of theoretical and practical activity by the CPSU and the creative work of all Soviet people, headed by the working class and guided by the Communist Party.

Our planet is now inhabited by around 2,000 different nationalities and ethnic groups, more than 90 percent of which live in multinational states. It is completely obvious that the question of nationality is one of the most complex and even dramatic issues in the history of mankind and that social progress will depend largely on its scientific and revolutionary resolution. The contents of this anthology prove that Lenin's party has set an example in the resolution of this issue.

The Soviet regime and the CPSU have accomplished something that even the most highly developed capitalist states which brag about their democracy have not been able, and are not able, to do. After all, it is a fact that the question of nationality is still a "sore spot" and an extremely pressing problem in the United States, Canada and Belgium, not to mention Great Britain, where the English imperialists are constantly tightening the "Ulster knot" and have launched brutal terrorist actions against the population of Northern Ireland, where the people have risen up in a struggle for their rights.

"It would be impossible to overestimate the contribution to the history of mankind... by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, created at Lenin's initiative and under the guidance of the Communist Party," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev said. "The fact that the USSR is the site where the first socialist society was built and where truly equal fraternal relations between peoples were practiced for the first time, will indisputably be remembered and valued by all people for all time" (p 340).

Lenin performed a magnificent service by creating a multinational socialist state. In his works and statements of the post-October period, he expresses obvious concern about the consistent and constant implementation of the principles of the equality and sovereignty of peoples, their unfettered self-determination, the cancellation of all ethnic privileges and restrictions, and the voluntary union of nationalities. When Vladimir Il'ich defined the bases of this unity, he wrote that a revolutionary party must not attach primary significance to abstract or formal principles in the question of nationality, but must give total consideration to the specific historical condition and, above all, economic conditions and carefully distinguish the interests of the working people from the general concept of the public interest (see pp 67-68).

Lenin's plan for the creation of the USSR on the basis of the principle of socialist federalism represents a truly scientific achievement. As the anthology points out, the implementation of this plan provided scope for the development of Soviet national governments. Whereas in 1923 there were 33 national states and national-state structures in the country, including 4 union republics, 13 autonomous republics and 16 autonomous oblasts, now the USSR is made up of 53 national states and national-state structures, including 15 union republics, 20 autonomous republics, 8 autonomous oblasts and 10 autonomous okrugs.

The contents of the anthology testify that the specific powers of the union and national governments were defined to conform to union interests during each stage of the USSR's development in line with the specific conditions and objectives of socialist and communist construction in each stage. The increasing internationalization of social life in the nation, the improvement of the unified national economic complex, the consolidation of the social homogeneity of the society, the establishment of its classless structure and the progressive convergence of nationalities and ethnic groups around a single political and economic system have made it necessary to give priority to the union government of the Soviet federated state. This is reflected in the constitution of the developed socialist society, which states that the USSR personifies the governmental unity of the Soviet people, uniting all nationalities and ethnic groups for the collective construction of communism. At the same time, our country's new constitution gives the union republics broader sovereign rights.

When the 25th CPSU Congress described ways of improving socialist government under the conditions of mature socialism, it noted: "We have always believed and still believe that a new historic community has taken shape in our nation--the Soviet people, based on the indestructible alliance of the working class, peasantry and intelligentsia, with the working class playing the leading role, and the friendship of all nationalities and ethnic groups in the country" (pp 391-392). The party defined the formation of this great human community in the USSR as a strong social foundation for the consolidation of its power.

The comprehensive and united development of union and national government on the basis of Lenin's principles of democratic centralism and socialist federalism guarantees the constant growth of the material and spiritual potential of each republic and its maximum use for the harmonious development of the entire country. The Communist Party's Leninist line was comprehensively and thoroughly set forth in the decisions of its 26th congress and in other documents published in this anthology. Living according to the Leninist laws of friendship and fraternity in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, all of the peoples of our motherland are on the wide road to progress and are increasing their contribution to the unionwide repository with each year. The 11th Five-Year Plan will mark a new stage in the implementation of Lenin's policy on nationalities.

The development of the union government, the strong unity of nationalities and ethnic groups in the USSR and the birth of the new historic human community do not signify, however, that all problems in the sphere of national relations have been solved or that national aspects have lost any of their significance in the mature socialist society. "The dynamics of the development of a large multinational state like ours," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev noted in the Accountability Report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 26th Congress, "can give rise to many problems requiring the full attention of the party" (p 536).

National relations do constitute a reality in the mature socialist society. They are constantly developing, particularly in the struggle against negative behavior and outdated traditions and customs. If we categorize these merely as "remnants of the past," we lose sight of the factors which, even when there are no objective preconditions for any kind of inter-ethnic antagonism, can still give rise to nationalist prejudices and excessive or distorted displays of national feeling in some people. The party teaches us to look for these factors in our present practice as well--for example, in errors in internationalist and patriotic indoctrination.

The contents of the anthology reflect the precise position of our party regarding the constant observance of Leninist national policy principles and the display, as Lenin taught us, of tolerance and tact in dealing with national feelings, particularly in the case of small ethnic groups. Guided by Lenin's instructions, the 26th CPSU Congress has demanded that problems arising in the sphere of national relations be a matter of constant concern and be quickly resolved in the interest of communist construction. The congress documents with which the anthology concludes state, in particular, that party and government personnel staffs should reflect the composition of the population and should consist of members of all nationalities and ethnic groups. It is also important to thoroughly investigate problems connected with the specific requests of non-native nationalities in

various republics regarding their language, culture and way of life. The party is now attaching significance to the development of initiative on the local level in the statewide interest and is resolutely fighting against regionalist tendencies and signs of chauvinism and nationalism.

Under the conditions of mature socialism, the USSR is acquiring increasing significance as a tried and tested governmental form of collective struggle by free peoples for CPSU policy objectives and communist ideals.

8588

CSO: 1800/623

NATIONAL

STENOGRAPHIC REPORT OF 26TH CPSU CONGRESS PUBLISHED

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Jul 81 p 2

[Article (TASS): "A Stenographic Record of 26th CPSU Congress Proceedings Has Been Published by Politizdat"]

[Text] The second volume of the stenographic record of the proceedings of the 26th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union has been published.

This book contains the speech made by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at the conclusion of the 26th CPSU Congress and the list of persons elected to the CPSU Central Committee and CPSU Central Auditing Commission at the 26th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

This brochure also includes the report by Chairman N. A. Tikhonov of the USSR Council of Ministers on the "Basic Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR During 1981-1985 and During the Period up to 1990" and the resolutions of the 26th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in regard to the CPSU Central Committee's draft basic guidelines for national development and in regard to the letters and statements of working people and appeals of communists addressed to the 26th CPSU Congress.

The book has been published by the Political Literature Publishing House.

8588

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REGIONAL

ALIYEV HIGHLIGHTS AGRICULTURE AT REPUBLIC AKTIV

Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY In Russian 20 Jun 81 pp 1-2

[Report on speech presented by Geydar Ali Rza ogly Aliyev, first secretary of the CPAz Central Committee and candidate for membership in the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, at meeting of republic party and economic aktiv in Baku on 19 June 1981 (AZFRINFORM)]

[Excerpts] Comrades! This meeting of our republic's party and economic aktiv is being held to discuss the progress in the implementation of 26th CPSU Congress decisions and measures to attain the agricultural objectives set by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev in his speeches at the festivities commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Georgian SSR and the Georgian Communist Party.

The speeches presented at this meeting and available statistics testify that our successes in agriculture, just as in other branches of the republic economy, have been noteworthy. But today's discussion also proved that we have no reason to rest on our laurels. We must do everything within our power to improve our work, eliminate shortcomings, constantly strive for more, and ensure the unconditional fulfillment and overfulfillment of all the plans and high socialist commitments of the first year of the 11th Five-Year Plan. The means and methods of attaining this goal were discussed in detail at the meeting of the republic party aktiv held to review the results of the 26th CPSU Congress, and the plenum of the CPAz Central Committee which examined the Central Committee's organizational and political measures aimed at implementing the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the 30th CPAz Congress.

Comrades! During the meeting I was called to the telephone, and the caller was Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev. He asked about the state of affairs in the republic and the status of plan fulfillment, particularly in agriculture. I told him what was going on in our republic and assured him that the working people of Azerbaijan are selflessly carrying out the plans of the 26th CPSU Congress and Leonid Il'ich's own instructions, advice and recommendations. In particular, I told him that rural workers are now increasing the speed of their work and using all opportunities for its intensification. I told Leonid Il'ich that the republic party and economic aktiv is now discussing the best ways of effectively attaining the objectives he set forth in his speeches in Tbilisi. Comrade L. I. Brezhnev was pleased with this information, said that the positive developments in our republic made him happy and asked me to convey his hearty greetings and best wishes to all persons attending

this meeting of the party and economic aktiv and all of the working people of Azerbaijan.

My conversation with Comrade L. I. Brezhnev and his questions and good wishes corroborate once again the close contact the leader of our party and the Soviet State maintains with local party organizations and the constant attention Leonid Il'ich devotes to our republic and its party organization. The things Comrade L. I. Brezhnev had to say during his call enriched the work of our aktiv meeting and heightened our responsibility to the party and to Leonid Il'ich personally for the attainment of objectives set for Azerbaijan.

There have been many successes in animal husbandry in our republic, as our comrades correctly pointed out in their reports today, but there have been just as many shortcomings. Noticeable changes took place in Azerbaijan's animal husbandry during the years of the Ninth and Tenth Five-Year Plans. When our agriculture was seriously underdeveloped in the recent past, animal husbandry was the most neglected branch. Let us recall, Comrades, that just 10 or 11 years ago the average milk yield of each cow and buffalo was only 677 kilograms and the cattle turned over for slaughter did not weigh more than 210 kilograms. Meat and milk production plans were usually not fulfilled. In the last 10 years our animal husbandry has progressed considerably. This is eloquently attested to by the fact that our republic was one of the victors in the all-union socialist competition for the wintering of livestock in 1979-80 and was awarded a certificate of honor by the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komsomol Central Committee.

There have been definite successes this year as well. By 15 June the 6-month assignment for sales of meat to the state had already been fulfilled by 92 percent, the milk assignment had been filled by 98 percent, the wool assignment by 106 percent and the egg assignment by 101 percent. In comparison to the same period last year, we procured almost 3,400 more tons of meat, 7,600 more tons of milk and 4,664,000 more eggs. The output of meat during the first 5 months of the year was 4 percent greater than the output of the first 5 months of last year, and the output of eggs was 5 percent greater. Azerbaijan is one of the leading union republics in animal husbandry production growth rates.

These figures indicate that we are constantly progressing, even if our progress has not been all that quick. This is good news, but the results of the first 5 months also show us significant shortcomings. Above all, the level of the party's guidance of animal husbandry is too low in many rayons; animal husbandry is not a central concern of party committees. This kind of incorrect attitude is having a negative effect on the development of animal husbandry. As a result, as Comrade I. A. Mamedov noted in his speech, in addition to having rayons which have significantly increased their output of animal husbandry products, we also have many rayons which are making no progress and some that have even regressed and have produced less meat and milk than they did last year.

I will not name the leaders and laggards because enough has already been said about this. You certainly also read the reports that are regularly published in republic newspapers. I would only like to stress that no rayon has any objective justification for lower indicators or lagging. This year all rayons are equal with regard to conditions for animal husbandry. Wherever administrators are aware of their duties and responsibilities and make use of existing potential skillfully, indicators

are good. Unfortunately, many administrators display a different attitude toward animal husbandry and this naturally has a negative effect on the results of work. The great variety of rayon and farm indicators attests precisely to this. Whereas the average milk yield increased by 44 kilograms in the first 5 months of the year throughout the republic and the yield in some rayons increased by more than 100 kilograms, it decreased in other rayons. The conclusion is obvious.

The experience of recent years has proved that milk production generally decreases dramatically in the republic in the summer months. But there is no reason for this. The causes of this decrease in the milk yield must be analyzed in each rayon and on each farm and must then be eliminated. We must take steps to not only prevent the milk yield from decreasing in June, July and August, but also increase it in the summer. The methods of accomplishing this are clear: Livestock must be fed a nutritious and balanced diet and must receive better care and qualified veterinary treatment. If livestock is cared for properly in the summer months, there is every reason to believe that milk production will increase considerably in this season.

There is no objective reason to reduce the number of cows. It is true that unproductive cows have been withdrawn from the herd in some rayons, but this is understandable. There can be no good explanation, however, for the fact that these cows have not been replaced with more productive livestock. We must take every opportunity to considerably increase the relative number of cows in the herd of each farm and ensure that the total number of cows and buffalos in the public sector reaches at least 240,000.

It has already been pointed out that one of the main reasons for the low productivity and growth rates in animal husbandry is the high percentage of barren livestock. The extensive use of artificial insemination and the institution of the entire group of zootechnical measures will indisputably help us to overcome this problem. Agricultural agencies and kolkhoz and sovkhos administrators must take an active part in the struggle against barrenness, so that each cow on each farm will produce at least one calf.

In the first 5 months of this year the average weight of cattle turned over for slaughter throughout the republic was 308 kilograms. In some rayons it was slightly higher. It is our duty to bring all rayons up to the level of the best and to strive for a republic average of at least 310 kilograms.

There is also another matter which I have had to discuss numerous times. I am speaking of the unjustified slaughter of livestock for so-called intrafarm needs. Our affairs in this area are still not in order. Kolkhoz, sovkhos and rayon administrators must take all necessary steps to prevent the squandering and theft of livestock.

It is our duty and obligation to give thorough and serious consideration and our full attention to all problems in fodder production.

As you know, the spring months, especially April and May, were rainy in the republic. This had a beneficial effect on grass crops and meadows. We have a good grass stand throughout the republic. Now we must gather all fodder crops on schedule and without losing any of them so that we can overfulfill plans and socialist commitments.

Comrade Aliyev then noted that the CPAz Central Committee has repeatedly ordered administrators of the Ministry of Agriculture, other ministries, departments and rayons to organize the timely sowing and careful tending of fodder crops. Once again, however, this has not been done this year. The fine spring weather improved the situation and the grass yield is abundant everywhere, but some people are not making use of this opportunity either. In many rayons they have been too slow in mowing the hay and laying in a good supply of haylage. Each unproductive day brings us irreplaceable fodder losses.

Fodder production and procurement plans are being compiled incorrectly in some republic rayons and on some farms, Comrade Aliyev went on to say. In particular, today's speakers mentioned feed units several times and said that there was some confusion in norm-setting in this area. And it is a fact that planning is now based only on gross indicators, without any consideration for the quantities and types of fodder that should be stocked for each cow.

Comrade Mamedov said, and I agree, that each rayon must set itself additional assignments to supply each head of cattle with at least 28-30 quintals of feed units.

I would like to repeat that statistical reports give us food for serious thought. I am referring, for example, to the haylage procurement progress report. It indicates that some rayons are just about to fulfill the plan or even to overfulfill it while others are lagging far behind.

In recent years fodder production figures have been padded on some farms. Rayon and farm administrators have been penalized for this. Unfortunately, not everyone has drawn the proper conclusions from this and the practice is still going on. Rayon party committees must thoroughly investigate each case of fraud and of padding on farms and penalize the guilty in order to put an end to this practice. People's control organs should also give these matters serious consideration and regularly investigate them. Apparently, the responsibility of rayon statistical administrations must also be heightened. They must scrutinize each figure in farm reports. The chiefs of rayon agricultural administrations should bear personal responsibility for all report data, for each figure.

In summation, I would like to stress once more that conditions for fodder procurement in the republic are good this year and they must be utilized in full in all rayons. This will lay a basis for the successful fulfillment of plans and socialist commitments regarding the output and procurement of animal husbandry products this year and in the future.

At present, Comrades, one of our main objectives in agriculture is the successful harvesting of grain crops and the fulfillment of plans and socialist commitments regarding grain procurement. Conditions in this area are also better this year than in the past. This means that we should have no trouble keeping up with grain harvesting schedules. In many rayons, however, these schedules were violated in the very first days of the harvest season. Why are these schedules drawn up? Certainly not so that progress reports can be sent to the Central Committee. The schedules are supposed to focus the efforts of people and equipment on efficient and uninterrupted work. Secretaries of party raykoms and the administrators of

rayispolkoms and rayon agricultural administrations must take full responsibility for them. Even a slight delay can result in losses of around 2-3 quintals of grain per hectare. But there is absolutely no question that losses cannot be permitted. After all, so much labor has been invested in each hectare and so many difficulties have been overcome to raise the crop. This is why our principal objective is to gather the entire harvest and complete the threshing as quickly as possible--within 10-12 working days. This, Comrades, is the goal we should work toward.

Speakers mentioned that this year's yield will exceed last year's by 4-5 quintals and we will be able to obtain 26-27 quintals of grain per hectare throughout the republic. I do not agree. We have every reason to expect 28-30 quintals and I am certain that we are capable of doing this. But this will depend largely on how we organize our work. This is why I am asking rayons and farms to join the struggle to obtain this kind of yield. The Ministry of Agriculture, the State Committee for Viticulture and Winemaking, the Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Farming and rayon administrators should use this goal as a point of reference when they conduct their work.

There is no question that the rapid harvesting of grain without losses and the attainment of a high yield will necessitate the orderly and, above all, efficient use of combines in all areas. As speakers pointed out, we do not have enough combines and the ones we do have are not being used efficiently. For example, according to available data for 15 June, 1,100 combines were operating that day and the grain on 5,400 hectares was harvested. This means that the workload of each combine was only 5 hectares. This is an extremely low indicator, particularly for the beginning of the harvest season. I want all rayons and farms to have all of the prerequisites for quicker work. The experience of past years has proved that a shortage of combines is a serious obstacle in the harvest season. A shortage of machine operators also slows down the work. The order to organize double-shift work in grain harvesting was issued well in advance of the season. There must be at least two machine operators for each combine so that the reaping can go on from early morning to sunset. This could also be done in the dark, even at night. To this end, we must make higher demands on the appropriate rayon subdivisions, institute stronger control and concentrate all efforts on the main objective--the completion of harvesting work as quickly as possible and without losses.

A production figure of 1.2 million tons of grain this year is absolutely realistic. We are fully capable of doing this. But if we try even harder to obtain 28-30 quintals of grain from each hectare, we will probably exceed this figure.

It would be wise to remember that straw should be laid by at the same time that the grain is being harvested, and then cleared fields should be plowed without delay. In some rayons corn for green fodder can be planted in the cleared fields. All of these measures should be part of a single program. In short, our most important objective today consists in accelerating the harvesting of grain and guaranteeing the high yield of each hectare.

It is clear from the speeches presented at this meeting that although cotton plants are maturing later this year than last, the general state of the crop is promising. And as most of our comrades assured us, this crop is even better than last year's.

But this news should not make anyone complacent. Cotton farming requires extremely intense work and this is why we must immediately speed up the work on plantations, institute strict control over the completion of all agrotechnical measures and finish the third cultivation of all fields by 25 June. Weeding must be conducted on a broad scale and the soil must be completely fertilized. The experience of the last 2 or 3 years should help us in the better organization of the fight against cotton diseases and pests, especially the boll worm, the more extensive use of biological agents and the performance of preventive work everywhere.

At the same time, we must begin preparing for cotton picking, put all equipment, procurement centers and gins in order, complete the establishment of asphalt cotton drying areas and so forth. Particularly careful preparations for the machine harvesting of cotton will be needed this year. We must pick 260,000-280,000 tons of cotton by machine. If we want to begin the harvest season fully prepared, we must repair all machinery in advance, provide farms with machine operators and make the necessary preparations in cotton fields.

As speakers have already pointed out, the weather has slowed down the maturation of the cotton, but plant density on plantations surpasses last year's. This is a good basis. Now we must work toward the full development of each bush so that it will produce the maximum number of bolls and, what is most important, we must protect each boll from pests and diseases and thereby bring it up to the highest quality rating. We have 2-2.5 months to do this. If we do everything that is necessary, we will increase the yield on each hectare. There is no question that the struggle to surpass last year's record cotton production and procurement figures in the first year of the 11th Five-Year Plan will become the patriotic duty of Azerbaijan's cotton farmers and the republic party organization!

Available data indicate that a large harvest is expected in vineyards. It is true that the cold spring created certain difficulties for our viticulturists. As speakers noted, the rain considerably damaged plantations on some farms, but viticulturists put up an energetic fight to save the vines. Their work was not in vain. The crucial moment has now arrived; after all, most of the grapes have entered the blooming stage. Our comrades in viticulture know that this is a decisive period and they, along with branch officials, must put all of their effort into caring for each vine on these plantations. Only this will make each vine present us with its generous gifts. I would like to warn the heads of the State Committee for Viticulture and Winemaking and farm managers to refrain from allowing the present harvest prospects to make them complacent. This could cost us a great deal later on and could lead to irreplaceable losses.

Summing up what I have said about viticulture, I would like to remind you that last year we sold the state 1,383,000 tons of grapes. It is obvious that this year we should considerably surpass this figure. I think that each of us will devote all of his strength and ability to the attainment of this goal and will work selflessly to grace the nation with a large grape harvest this year.

Things are going well in vegetable farming too. The speeches presented by the minister and by rayon administrators tell us that an abundant harvest of cabbage, cucumbers, tomatoes and other vegetables has been raised. But we must ensure the

timely harvesting and unionwide circulation of these vegetables and deliver enough to the trade network to supply the republic population. We must approach this with total responsibility. We have raised a large harvest but we cannot send substandard vegetables to Moscow, Leningrad and other cities in the nation, or to the working people of Baku. The struggle for quality is the chief responsibility of workers in the southern and northern rayons of the republic. In addition to harvesting the vegetables on schedule, they must not lose any of the crop and they must wage a struggle against theft and mismanagement. We must purchase all of the surplus vegetables raised on private plots and by the Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Farming and Azerittifak and prevent speculation and pilfering. It is our duty to gather the entire vegetable crop, sell enough to the state to fill the needs of the population and supply the necessary quantity for industrial processing.

I am pleased to announce that there are no complications in tea farming. First Secretary D. D. Dzhamalova of the Lenkoran' party gorkom and First Secretary A. G. Gasanov of the Masallinskiy party raykom spoke of the stepped-up socialist commitments that had been taken on. These commitments have also been taken on in other rayons. There is no doubt that we will produce a record quantity of green tea leaves this year.

As for potato production, I expressed my views on this matter when Comrade Orudzhev presented his report. The delays in potato planting were inexcusable. The persons responsible for the delays must be called to account, the plants must be tended more carefully and all agrotechnical measures must be carried out.

We were pleased to hear about the commitments taken on by tobacco growers. I think they will overfulfill them. It seems to me that silkworm breeders are lagging behind slightly. They must speed up their work because there can be no delays in the procurement of cocoons. Silkworm breeders must speedily complete this work and move on to other things.

Comrades, today we have discussed the state of affairs in all of the main branches of agriculture in detail and I hope that this discussion will serve as a basis for the intensification of our work.

Comrade Aliyev went on to stress that many ministries and organizations would have to assist in the successful completion of agricultural work. Builders, he said, must complete processing enterprises on schedule. I am referring to wineries and all facilities for the processing of cotton and vegetables. Water-management construction should be accelerated. Subartesian wells must be dug and put in operation on schedule and their continuous functioning must be guaranteed.

Uninterrupted transport services represent an important condition for the successful completion of agricultural tasks. The shipment of grain and vegetables now, followed by the shipment of cotton, grapes and many other products, is the principal job of rail, motor vehicle and other types of transport.

The implementation of 26th party congress decisions and Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's instructions on agriculture will necessitate more energetic work by our newspapers, radio and television networks and all mass media. To give credit where credit is due, I must say that agriculture has been given its rightful place in newspapers and radio and television broadcasts. But the published reports and broadcasts must

be of higher quality, they must objectively describe the state of affairs in rayons and on farms and must not contain any traces of subjectivism. Sometimes certain rayons and farms are overpraised while some production leaders are not given enough attention. This evokes valid criticism and this is why our mass media must improve their work, basing it on the principles of complete party objectivity.

In these busy days we must provide agricultural workers with better services. This applies to trade, personal services, medicine, cultural establishments and film associations.

Some of the comrades who spoke today raised several questions and made specific suggestions. The Agriculture Department of the Central Committee, the Council of Ministers and the appropriate ministries must take them under advisement without delay. Please give this matter the most serious consideration and report the results to the party Central Committee.

The Azerbaijan SSR was the first in the nation to complete the industrial and agricultural production assignments of the 10th Five-Year Plan, in 4 years and 2.5 months. This great labor victory was highly commended by the party and government and earned our republic its third Order of Lenin.

We have begun to carry out the 11th Five-Year Plan. For the republic party organization this is the third five-year plan of our modern stage. We have fulfilled two five-year plans successfully. During the years of these two five-year plans we laid a solid foundation for even quicker progress in the future. We must use this foundation effectively and ensure the fulfillment of all assignments and commitments of the 11th Five-Year Plan.

At the beginning of my speech, I said that working people in the republic had begun the year successfully, especially in agriculture. It is our duty to consolidate and multiply our accomplishments and considerably surpass the plans and commitments for 1981.

We fulfilled the last five-year plan ahead of schedule. Now we must constantly think about completing the 11th Five-Year Plan even earlier. For this purpose, I repeat, we will have to lay a solid foundation within this first year of the present five-year plan. The thorough discussion of topics at today's meeting of the aktiv, the businesslike approach, the sincerity and the awareness of responsibility that were apparent in each speech testify that we are fully capable of solving the most difficult problems facing our republic. For this reason, allow me, on behalf of the meeting of the aktiv and on behalf of all working people in the republic, to assure the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Central Committee Politburo and Comrade L. I. Brezhnev personally that the working class, kolkhoz peasantry and intelligentsia of Azerbaijan will conscientiously implement the decisions of the 26th party congress and achieve record results in agriculture this year.

(Comrade G. A. Aliyev's speech aroused great interest and was repeatedly interrupted by enthusiastic applause.)

The meeting was attended by CPAz Central Committee Bureau members K. M. Bagirov, G. A. Gasanov, F. E. Musayev, Yu. N. Pugachev, G. N. Seidov, K. A. Khalilov and Z. M. Yusif-zade, bureau candidates for membership R. E. Mekhtiyev, D. M. Muslimzade, L. Kh. Rasulova and G. Sh. Efendiyev and CPSU Central Committee official I. N. Kuz'min.

REGIONAL

PLOTNIKOV DESCRIBES KAZAKH PERMANENT COMMITTEES' WORK

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Jul 81 p 2

[Article by A. Plotnikov, deputy chairman of the Presidium of Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet: "The Authority of a Recommendation—From the Work Experience of Permanent Commissions"]

[Text] Approximately 126,000 deputies have been elected to soviets of people's deputies of our republic. More than 100,000 of them are on permanent commissions. These organs of the soviets influence all sides of life, help solve important problems of economic, social, living and cultural construction, contribute to the fulfillment of the instructions of the electors. Recommendations of permanent commissions which are based on collective experience become more substantive. They help the soviets to implement more completely the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the directives contained in the speeches of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev.

The 15 permanent commissions of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet are working actively. They are composed of 420 deputies. Recently, certain changes have taken place here. Life suggests the advisability of setting up an independent commission for industry. (There formerly existed a single commission for industry, transport and communications). This made it possible to devote more attention to the important sectors of the national economy and to examine more knowledgeably questions that come up and to provide recommendations for them. A commission for physical culture, sports and tourism has again been formed.

The sphere of activity of the permanent commission of the Supreme Soviet of the republic recently has significantly expanded. The main lines of their work are annual preliminary examination of state plans and budgets for the republic, the study, discussion and working out of recommendations for current questions relating to the economy and social development and for questions relating to science and culture and participation in the working up of different bills.

The permanent commissions devoted much attention to problems of fulfillment of national-economic plans, further raising of efficiency of public production, improvement of the quality of produced products, increasing the output of consumer goods, raising the level of services for the population and organizing control over the execution of laws and decrees.

The composition of the commission and the broad possibilities of involving in the preparation and examination of different questions of specialists of the main sectors

of the economy scientists and representatives of state organs make it possible to competently study questions and provide substantive recommendations. For example, the Commission for Industry of the Supreme Soviet consists of 31 deputies, including 7 heads of production associations and large enterprises, 18 skilled workers and engineering and technical personnel.

A reliable support of the permanent commissions is the aktiv. Last year alone, the work of the commissions of the republic's Supreme Soviet involved the participation on a voluntary basis of about 600 specialists of different sectors of the economy and culture.

Recommendations of the commissions and materials of examinations help ministries and departments to conduct their work more energetically.

I shall cite some examples.

The Commission for Agriculture, on checking on fulfillment of recommendations relating to boosting of the effectiveness of using irrigated land and water resources for increasing the output of agricultural products in Taldy-Kurganskaya Oblast, determined that through the efforts of soviets of people's deputies many recommendations were realized in the oblast pertaining to water-management construction, start-up of capacities, cleaning of irrigation systems, and significantly more crops were irrigated than formerly. The oblast fulfilled plans for yield of grain crops, corn, rice and vegetables.

The Permanent Commission for Protection of Nature together with the Commission for Agriculture twice examined the work of the republic's Ministry of Forestry for increasing the protection of forests and improving the quality and effectiveness of forest-management and nature-protection measures. The commission's recommendations contributed to the expansion of forested areas, field-protection and soil-protection plantings. For securing of the sands of Pribalkhash'ye, Muyunkumy and Kyzylkumy haloxylon was planted on more than 100,000 hectares. More attention is being paid to protection of forests from fires and from pests. The republic's Ministry of Forestry has adopted a number of measures ensuring the fulfillment of plans for reforestation and the creation of shelter belts. Improved use is being made of the gifts of the forest—wildgrowing fruits and berries. Their procurement is above plan.

The efforts of sectorial deputy commissions have started to be directed increasingly more frequently to the solution of economic and social problems, on the observance of a regime of economy for material and labor resources, the location and effective utilization of production resources and the fulfillment of plans and socialist commitments.

Active work by planning-budget and sectorial commissions made it possible last year alone to increase through the location of extra resources the plan of allocations by more than 17 million rubles. It was proposed to increase budgetary outlays by this sum and to direct these sums for financing of the national economy, culture, health care and social security.

The Commission for Industry has twice returned to the matter of use of internal resources for increasing production output and increasing a regime of economy at

enterprises of the republic's Ministry of Meat and Dairy Industry. The commission's recommendations have helped eliminate defects disclosed in the course of the check. Losses have been markedly reduced at the ministry's enterprises. During the past two years above-plan production equaled 38.5 million rubles.

The Supreme Soviet's permanent commissions have begun more energetically to exercise their control functions. Last year, they checked on the fulfillment of their recommendations on a number of matters, particularly on such as observance of legislation on rational and comprehensive use of mineral wealth and its protection by enterprises of the republic's Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy and on improving the organization of nutrition of school youth in Alma Ata.

Here are the results: according to preliminary data, the miners saved 2 million tons of ore of nonferrous metals. More than 6 million tons of ore were mined as a result of the extraction of previously written-off reserves.

It has begun to be a practice among us to regularly examine at the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet annual and long-term plans of the permanent commissions. This makes it possible to avoid duplication of questions and to pick out the main and significant. Coordination of the commissions' activities is done in connection with their participation in preparation of questions for the session of the Supreme Soviet and meeting of the Presidium.

Analysis of the work of the commissions shows that the possibilities of improving their work have far from been exhausted. Lapses are to be found in the carrying out of control functions. Despite the positive sides of the commissions' joint work with organs of people's control, serious problems are encountered here. The need is felt for wider exchange of experience and better elucidation of the work of the commissions in the press.

Permanent commissions are actively contributing to improved efficiency of the work of the republic's highest organ of power; they provide continuity in the operation of the Supreme Soviet in the period between sessions and help better organization of the work of deputies and greater activity on their part.

As in the other republics, we also include in practice reports of the Council of Ministers on the course of fulfillment of the instructions of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet on proposals and recommendations of the permanent commissions, particularly relating to national-economic plans, the budget and other questions.

In the 10th Five-Year Plan Kazakhstan achieved successes in all spheres of the economy, science and culture. Industrial production volume increased by more than 18 percent, and 700 kinds of new products were produced. Thirty-eight billion rubles of capital investment were used, about 250 new enterprises, large shops, production operations were brought on line. During this period the republic poured into the granaries of the Motherland 81.7 million tons of high-quality grain. Procurement plans were overfulfilled for potatoes, vegetables, milk, eggs, wool and other products.

The precipitous growth of the economy has contributed to the systematic implementation of a grandiose social program spelled out by Lenin's party and to its undeviating implementation. During the 10th Five-Year Plan 3.3 million Kazakh dwellers either moved to new accommodations or improved their housing conditions.

In the first year of the new five-year plan, many responsible tasks have to be solved. And in this, of course, a big role is bound to be played by soviets of people's deputies and their permanent commissions, the work of which is directed at the successful implementation of the historic decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress.

7697

CSO: 1800/616

REGIONAL

LATVIAN MINISTRY, DEPARTMENT CONTROL WORK CRITICIZED

Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 16 Jun 81 p 1

[Editorial: "Improving Departmental Control"]

[Text] Under the conditions of developed socialism, when the country's economic potential has increased many times over and become a firm foundation for a further improvement in the people's well-being, the significance of all-embracing control also increases considerably. It is designed to ensure the most rational use of material and financial resources and the preservation of socialist property and to put an end to lax management and extravagance and excesses and abuse.

Following the instructions of V.I. Lenin, who regarded all-embracing control as a component of management of the economy and a means of instilling discipline in executive personnel and all working people, our party has constantly paid and continues to pay great attention to accounting and control. A number of all-state legislative instruments, the Law on People's Control in the USSR and other important directive documents in this sphere have been formulated and adopted.

The Main Directions of the USSR's Economic and Social Development in 1981-1985 and the Period Through 1990, which were confirmed by the 26th CPSU Congress, provide for a further refinement of control-auditing work and an increase in the role of the people's control authorities. Control, Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev pointed out, should be exercised systematically and on a current basis, from above and below simultaneously.

Guided by party and government instructions, our republic's party and soviet bodies have recently notably increased their attention to control-auditing work. These questions have come to be examined more frequently at party committee soviet ispolkom sessions. Measures have been adopted to coordinate the activity of the inspection authorities, which makes it possible to reduce the number of checks, but to conduct them in greater depth. Such coordination councils have been set up in Rezekne and Daugavpils and in Yekabpilsskiy and other rayons. A methodological council of workers of the departmental control-auditing machinery has been set up under the auspices of the Latvian SSR Ministry of Finance.

More attention has come to be paid to a refinement of the work of the control-auditing services by many ministry and department leaders. For example, the ministries of agriculture, trade and consumer services have centralized the control-auditing machinery, which was quickly reflected in an improvement in the quality of

the audits and checks. The fact that the staff workers of the control-auditing services have begun to rely more on the public, particularly on the people's control groups and committees, is also positive.

At the same time it has to be said that there are still many shortcomings in departmental control. There are frequent instances of the audits being performed superficially and failing to uncover serious shortcomings in economic activity, violations of state and financial discipline and various abuses and exaggerated reports. This naturally has a negative influence on the final results of the activity of the enterprises, organizations and farms, engenders in the leaders and persons who are materially responsible a feeling of impunity and leads to those guilty of abuses not compensating for the damage caused by the state by their illegal actions.

For example, numerous audits were performed by the departmental service of the Ministry of Agriculture, but the checks carried out after them by the republic Ministry of Finance Control-Auditing Administration uncovered large sums of money spent illegally. A similar state of affairs was also uncovered in the system of the ministries of municipal services and local industry, the Latvkolkhozstroy, the State Committee for Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture and certain other departments. It frequently happens that workers of the Department of Struggle Against Embezzlement of Socialist Property and Speculation uncover improper acts after the departmental audits.

Making use of the right granted them by the Law on People's Control in the USSR, the LaSSR People's Control Committee and the people's control raykoms and gorkoms began to check on the organization of departmental control in various organizations, establishments and enterprises and on the farms increasingly often. And here they encountered serious violations which were not brought to light by departmental control. This applies, in particular, to the Ministry of Meat and Dairy Industry, the "Rigas manufaktura" Cotton Production Association and the "Rigas tekstils" Association.

The weakness of intradepartmental control should be of serious concern primarily to the ministry and department leaders. They must adopt the necessary measures to bring order to bear here and, primarily, display concern to strengthen the control-auditing machinery with skilled personnel.

Unfortunately, a whole number of ministries and departments lacks auditing personnel. Such personnel must be trained from among the best accountants and bookkeepers and people who are conversant with economics, planning and financial work and who have higher or secondary specialized education. It must be remembered that a shortage of personnel in this service has a negative influence on the quality of the audits and checks and is reflected in the fulfillment of the plans of control-auditing work.

Ministry and department leaders, for the control-auditing machinery is directly under their jurisdiction, must adopt effective measures on the results of audits and comprehensive checks, being strictly guided by the instructions on this score of the USSR Council of Ministers and the republic government and the Regulations on Departmental Control of Association, Enterprise, Organization and Establishment Financial-Economic Activity.

It is necessary to improve control-auditing work on the kolkhozes and in the cooperative organizations. Every farm and cooperative has its own auditing commission. Unfortunately, many of them are working unsatisfactorily and failing to uncover violations of economic-financial activity and abuses in good time. There are instances of audits not having been performed for 2 years on certain farms. We cannot be reconciled with such a situation. What is needed here is serious intervention by the Ministry of Agriculture and the local soviets.

The better our departmental control works, the fewer loopholes will remain for violators of state discipline, embezzlers of public property and spendthrifts. Control must contribute to ensuring that our economy be truly economical. This is required of us by the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress.

8850

CS0: 1800/579

REGIONAL

PARTY, GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL DISCUSSES PUBLIC WELFARE

Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 9 Jun 81 p 2

[Article by Timofey Nikolayevich Osetrov, first deputy chairman of the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers: "Concern for the Individual"]

[Text] Concern for the Soviet individual, for his welfare and happiness, has always been the focal point of all CPSU activity. This was given new emphasis at the 26th party congress.

The dynamic and constant development of all branches of the national economy has made it possible to carry out an entire system of measures to enhance the material well-being and raise the cultural standard of living of our people. Clear evidence of this can be seen in the growth of retail commodity turnover and the improvement of trade services for the population of our republic.

Under the constant supervision of the CPUZ Central Committee, the Council of Ministers and local party and soviet organs in the republic, trade developed and grew noticeably stronger during the years of the 10th Five-Year Plan.

Convincing examples were cited at recent meetings of the republic party and economic aktiv regarding the production of more consumer goods and the further improvement of trade services for the population of the Uzbek SSR in line with 26th CPSU Congress decisions. In the last 5 years retail commodity turnover was augmented by more than 3 billion rubles--a growth rate of 43 percent. All oblasts in the republic, the city of Tashkent and the Karakalpakskaya ASSR not only completed their assignments successfully, but also sold goods worth 530 million rubles over and above the plan.

The elevation of the material and spiritual standard of living of the working people in the republic is attested to by the 48-percent increase in sales of non-grocery items and the 36-percent increase in grocery sales; what is more, these were foods of great nutritional value, such as meat, eggs, vegetable shortening and produce.

The plan and the assignment for the first 5 months of this year have been fulfilled successfully. Trade leaders--the collectives of the Tashkent Central Department Store and State Department Store, enterprises of the Kuvinskiy Rayon Union of Consumer Societies and many others--are leading the competition, just as in the past. They are the pioneers of everything new and progressive in trade, constantly

searching for opportunities and methods for the fuller satisfaction of rapidly rising consumer demand.

The rapid development of retail commodity turnover in Uzbekistan was promoted by all of the work performed to improve trade services for the population and reinforce the material and technical base of trade. It was on this solid foundation that progressive forms and methods of trade were developed further and the retail network was specialized. Suffice it to say that 55 percent of all our stores are now self-service. Other progressive forms of trade were also developed further, such as commodity sales based on advance orders and on samples, home delivery and so forth.

In light of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the 20th CPUz Congress, trade workers in the republic have an important responsibility: They must work even harder to heighten the efficiency and improve the quality of their work. Much remains to be done in this area. Reserves and additional potential for growth in the branch are far from exhausted.

We are greatly disturbed, for example, by the fact that our trade organizations are still not using existing trade resources efficiently. There are still delays in supplying the population with even the most essential commodities, which are manufactured in sufficient quantities by industry and are always available in warehouses and bases.

In particular, I would like to talk about animal husbandry products. The constant provision of the population with these products is an important element of the food program now being drafted in the nation. Sizeable sums are being invested in the development of animal husbandry in our republic. Livestock fattening facilities, poultry factories and duck complexes are being built. The herd of livestock and poultry is growing. The productivity of farms is increasing. In 1980 meat procurements in Uzbekistan were 33 percent greater than in 1975, milk procurements were 47 percent greater and egg procurements were 73 percent greater.

An important role in increasing meat resources must be played by enterprises and organizations of the consumer cooperative and state trade networks in the republic which engage in the broad-scale fattening of livestock and poultry with edible waste. The fattening farms of trade organizations now have 115,000 head of cattle, 45,000 hogs and more than a million head of poultry. Opportunities for increasing these quantities are quite substantial.

The development of pond-fish culture deserves commendation. The republic is now obtaining up to 20,000 tons of live fish from man-made ponds, lakes and reservoirs. By 1985 the catch should reach 50,000 tons. This is an impressive increase in an important food product rich in protein. This is why trade organizations, fish farms and ispolkoms of soviets of people's deputies must work even harder to broaden the material and technical base for the delivery, sale, processing and extensive utilization of fish in public dining enterprises.

During the current 5 years, the output of potatoes, vegetables, fruit, grapes and cucurbits will grow dramatically. This will give the republic population a year-round supply of produce. Many specialized kolkhozes, sovkhozes and rayons have been established for this purpose. We have great hopes for our new republic

Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Industry. This ministry, the Ministry of Trade, Uzbekbriyash and ispolkoms of soviets of people's deputies must give more attention to questions concerning the construction of storage facilities, procurement centers, pickling wells, warehouses, bases and specialized stores. The container industry also needs intensive development.

It is a crucial season for procurement organizations. They must begin work on a broad scale for the procurement of large quantities of fresh agricultural products of high quality and the shipment of these products to retail trade enterprises. In turn, these enterprises must be ready to receive the products and sell them in a broad assortment.

Much is being done in the republic on the construction and improvement of kolkhoz markets. They have become noticeably more attractive in Tashkent, Bukhara, Nukus, Gulistan, Namangan and other cities. But all is not going well here. We are naturally disturbed by the fact that kolkhoz products still represent a negligible percentage of the products sold in these markets. In 1980 only 4 of the 20 markets in Tashkent Oblast concluded agreements with kolkhozes on shipments of agricultural products. The situation is the same in Kashkadar'inskaya and Khorezmskaya Oblasts. The sluggishness of some procurement agencies and the lack of an efficient system for the shipment of products to the market promote speculation and the illegal shipment of agricultural products out of the republic. The situation might be corrected if the Ministry of Trade, Uzbekbriyash and, in particular, ispolkoms of soviets of people's deputies would immediately work on improving the organization of trade in kolkhoz markets, including trade based on commission sales.

Intraorganizational trade has also been noticeably developed in recent years in the republic. Although the accomplishments in this field have been impressive, we must admit that serious shortcomings also exist. The republic Ministry of the Furniture and Wood Processing Industry, Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Industry Ministry of the Food Industry and Ministry of Light Industry did not complete their 10th-Five-Year-Plan assignments regarding the development of an intraorganizational trade network. For example, the Ministry of Light Industry opened only one such store instead of 13. The Ministry of Furniture and Wood Processing Industry's only trade enterprise of this type, opened recently in Tashkent, does not meet requirements as yet. Attitudes toward intraorganizational trade must undergo a radical change. This applies to advertising, the training of trade personnel, the high quality of commodities and exemplary customer service.

Higher demands are being made on the work of worker supply divisions and administrations of ministries and departments, which are supposed to serve the collectives of large industrial enterprises and construction sites, the developers of new areas and geologists. Many of them are not performing all of their assigned functions, however. The worker supply administrations and divisions of the Main Central Asian Administration for Irrigation and Sovkhoz Construction, the Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, the Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry, the Ministry of Rural Construction and others have an inadequate material and technical base, are not using new forms of trade, have low commercial and economic work standards and are unconcerned about the proper warehousing of goods and the preservation of socialist property.

The CPUz Central Committee and republic Council of Ministers hope that ministries and departments with a trade network, the Uzbek SSR Ministry of Trade and ispolkoms of soviets of people's deputies will take the necessary steps to radically improve the work of worker supply subdivisions.

There is no question in anyone's mind that the further improvement of trade services will be impossible without a stronger and more highly developed material and technical base. Allocations for this purpose in Uzbekistan during the 10th Five-Year Plan exceeded 500 million rubles. Large refrigeration and storage facilities were established for potatoes and produce, and warehouses, bases and modern department stores were opened in cities and rural areas. Comprehensive work to ensure the efficient use of material, labor and financial resources has been given a great deal of attention. Allocations for this purpose just in rural areas totaled around 100 million rubles in the last 5 years. Part of this sum was used to enlarge the trade area of stores by 57,000 square meters. It would have cost 2.4 times as much to build new trade enterprises of this size.

But there are also some disturbing statistics. Each year the republic Ministry of Construction fails to complete assignments regarding the use of funds allocated for the construction of trade facilities. Its subdivision in Dzhizak, for example, has been building a refrigerated distribution facility since 1979, although the standard construction period is 18 months. The Tashkent Main Construction Administration is also taking too long to build trade facilities. It opened an ice cream factory in 1979, but its packaging shop, dry ice shop, boiler room and lunchroom are still unfinished. The financing of trade facility construction with 5-percent deductions from the housing construction fund is poorly organized. In new neighborhoods, stores and lunchrooms are often opened several years after the new residential buildings. Delays have been particularly lengthy in Tashkent. This gives rise to tremendous inconveniences.

The rising standard of living of the Soviet people is the reason for the great demand for public catering services, and this demand will continue to rise in the future. In the last 5 years much was done in the republic to develop this branch. Commodity turnover here was augmented by more than 34 percent, and 2,300 enterprises with seating for 220,000 customers were opened. We have many model lunchrooms, restaurants and tea-rooms which are eagerly patronized by the public. But many problems are still unsolved. The seating in worker cafeterias is equivalent to only 78 percent of the norm and the respective figures in VUZ and school cafeterias are 61 percent and 42 percent. A number of enterprises and academic institutions have no cafeterias at all.

Administrators on all levels must not forget that the exemplary organization of meal services is an effective way of reducing unproductive expenditures of work time, increasing worker output, improving product quality, keeping personnel and, what is most important, preserving the health of Soviet people. We must find ways of remodeling existing lunchrooms and building new ones which will meet present-day requirements and standards and we must institute progressive forms and methods of customer service more quickly.

The basic guidelines for the nation's economic and social development during 1981-1985 and the period up to 1990 envisage the quicker development of branches in

group "B" than those in group "A." We are happy to announce that Uzbekistan has been quite successful in consumer goods production. During the 10th Five-Year Plan the output of these goods was augmented by 46 percent. Our trade network now includes such large enterprises as the Bukhara and Andizhan textile combines, the Khiva Rug Combine, the Kuvasay China Plant and many others. But this is no reason to relax. During the 11th Five-Year Plan, various commodities worth 64 billion rubles are to be sold to the republic population. Unfortunately, many will have to be shipped to us from other parts of the nation. This clearly indicates how much we still have to do to expand consumer goods production. The republic output is supposed to be augmented by 34.7 percent during the 11th Five-Year Plan. We are now concentrating on eliminating the shortages of such goods in mass demand as cotton and silk fabrics, hosiery, china and enamelware and various household items.

According to estimates, each republic inhabitant requires approximately 33 meters of cotton fabric a year. At present, however, the actual per capita consumption in Uzbekistan is close to 22 meters. Plan calculations indicate that we will reach the necessary level in 1985. Clothing production will grow significantly. The total output will be worth 1.1 billion rubles in 1985. The output of footwear will increase from 30 million pairs a year to 40 million. Underwear production will more than double. The output of other goods in great demand will also increase significantly. For example, the output of rugs and carpeting will increase 1.7-fold and will total 9 million square meters by 1985. The output of china will almost double and the production of furniture and items for cultural, personal and household use will be perceptibly augmented.

The year of 1981 will be a crucial stage in carrying out this program. The CPUz Central Committee and Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers have ordered republic enterprises to produce 250 million rubles' worth of consumer goods over and above the plan. Possibilities and reserves for this exist. Literally each enterprise in the republic, regardless of departmental jurisdiction or specialization, must organize the broad-scale production of consumer goods. A certain amount of experience has been accumulated in this field. This is attested to by the work of the Tashkent Production Aviation Association imeni Chkalov, the Uzbektekstil'mash Association, the Uzbekkhimmash Plant and others. We must take pains to ensure that the output of consumer goods at each enterprise is approximately equal to the total wage fund in monetary terms. Then Uzbekistan will be able to reduce outside deliveries of consumer goods to a minimum. This will serve as a reliable means of further improving the population's supply of all necessary commodities.

8588

CSO: 1800/610

REGIONAL

UKSSR PROSECUTOR ON COMBATING WHITE-COLLAR CORRUPTION

Kiev RADYANS'KA UKRAYINA in Ukrainian 30 May 81 p 2

[Article by F. Hlukh, Ukrainian SSR Prosecutor: "Close the Door on Criminals"]

[Text] Unswervingly observe socialist rule of law in economic relations -- this demand of the 26th CPSU Congress is stated in the Principal Directions of Economic and Social Development of the USSR in 1981-1985 and the Period up to 1990.

For the majority of Soviet citizens, firm observance of the law has become not only a civic but also a moral obligation, grounded on respect for the law, which guards both the interests of the state as a whole and the interests of each individual citizen. Unfortunately, however, there still occur cases of violation of the law, and such law violations are especially intolerable if the law is broken by economic leaders who are entrusted with leading our citizens and who have at their disposal considerable funds and material resources.

Procuratorship personnel, who encounter cases of law violations, frequently hear the following statements of justification: "It was done for a good cause," "Caused by necessity," "We were displaying economic initiative".... We should say at the outset that such statements are made by executives who are unable or unwilling to work in the right manner, who place narrow, parochial interests above the interests of the state, and who in certain cases pursue personal, selfish aims. But one is wrong to ignore the laws, settling matters of business from a localistic, subjectivistic position.

Let us take the criminal affair involving abuse of office by the former chairman of the Kolkhoz imeni Karl Marx in Bobrovitskiy Rayon, Chernigovskaya Oblast, by the name of Kryvonos. Having made the acquaintance of a certain Ivanov, who had been convicted on two occasions of stealing socialist property, Kryvonos saw fit to entrust the latter with organization of a subsidiary enterprise on the kolkhoz, although it was immediately apparent that the enterprise organized by Ivanov -- the manufacture of polyethylene packaging materials and labels -- had no relation whatsoever to the material, raw materials and labor resources of kolkhoz production, and therefore was an unlawful activity.

Acting in his own personal interest, although claiming "concern" for increasing kolkhoz income, Kryvonos was breaking the law. As a result a little group of

entrepreneurs flourished for quite some time on this kolkhoz, a gang which, while engaging in private enterprise, was able to "earn" and pocket more than 100,000 rubles. They would stop at nothing in their endeavor to reap profits. In order to conceal this criminal activity and to avoid paying taxes on private enterprise activities, the people involved in this subsidiary enterprise (almost all of them were residents of various localities in other republics) were illegally made kolkhoz members. According to the conclusions of the investigators, the pay they received, let alone the pay received by the executive personnel involved, was 10 times greater than the established standards.

Usually revenues from the sale of the products of the subsidiary enterprise were credited to the kolkhoz, which did provide certain profit to the farm, but on the whole considerable detriment was done to the interests of the state. It was primarily these private entrepreneurs who were profiting. The court correctly found these entrepreneurs, and also former kolkhoz chairman Kryvonosov, guilty of theft of public funds in especially large amounts and private enterprise activity, and sentenced them to long prison terms with confiscation of property.

Or take the following example. A crew of workers headed by a man by the name of Revay contracted to build a vegetable storage facility on the kolkhoz in the village of Hubnyk in Gaysynskiy Rayon, Vinnitskaya Oblast. Overstating the amount of construction work performed and the constructions costs, the leader of this crew of private-enterprise workers on the side pocketed more than 10,000 rubles. Revay was sentenced to 10 years in prison for this crime, and the kolkhoz chief accountant, Pelyshok, was also criminally indicted for failure properly to perform the duties of his office.

The management of the Zarya Kommunizma Kolkhoz in Trostyanetskiy Rayon, Vinnitskaya Oblast, also acted in an extremely irresponsible manner regarding construction last year of a technical servicing station by a crew of private-enterprise workers on the side. The kolkhoz managers not only accepted from the builders this facility, which had been built without any plans, but also paid them a considerable amount of money above and beyond the normal figure. The building itself collapsed after the illegal builders departed. Criminal charges were brought against the guilty parties.

What is the root cause of the evil of such phenomena, which cause not only material but also substantial moral detriment to the state? There is only one possible answer: ignoring the demands of the law, an attitude of mismanagement, and the desire to carry out one's localistic tendencies, even contrary to the established order.

We know that hiring of seasonal workers, both in industry and in agriculture, as well as organization of subsidiary enterprises is permitted by law. The procedure of negotiating such contracts and remunerating seasonal workers is regulated by a number of government decrees. However, an increase in recent years in the scope of construction of various facilities by kolkhozes and sovkhoses with their own financing, the hiring of temporary workers, organization and expansion of subsidiary enterprises have not always been accompanied by increased monitoring of business operations.

In particular, little attention has been focused on matters pertaining to substantiation and advisability of contracts concluded by kolkhozes, sovkhoses and

other organizations with hired crews for building roads, livestock units and other facilities, establishment of various subsidiary enterprises, determination of whether correct wages are being paid, and quality inspection of work performed. This promotes mismanagement, wastefulness and theft of socialist property. Economic executives frequently hand over to such entrepreneurs large sums of cash on account, and the latter pocket part of this money, and utilize it for illegal purchase of raw materials and allocated building materials, including with the payment of bribes. Certain farm management officials are also involved in criminal activities.

A large part of the blame for the fact that various entrepreneurs and workers on the side have penetrated kolkhozes and sovkhoses rests on the shoulders of local agricultural agencies, which do not always carry out their direct responsibilities in these matters, fail to ensure proper verification, record keeping and disbursement of public funds, and fail to achieve improvement of auditing activities. And yet the protection and growth of socialist property depends in large measure on these categories of their activities. We should emphasize that agricultural administration officials also visited on numerous occasions those kolkhozes discussed above, but gross violations of the law were not promptly nipped in the bud.

We must therefore emphasize that the activities of oversight agencies, both ministerial and nonministerial, must be substantially improved. It is essential to increase demands on these agencies, so that each and every inspection and audit will not only reveal violations of financial discipline and cases of mismanagement and wastefulness, but also would be of a preventive nature. Great importance here is assumed by improvement of bank oversight and employment of flawlessly correct procedures in disbursement of funds by kolkhozes and sovkhoses.

The main thing is to prevent occurrence of situations such as those discussed above, in firmly preventing violations of state discipline. And this depends first and foremost on how strictly are implemented the statutes which regulate all facets of business affairs. A recently issued USSR Council of Ministers decree on improving inspection and auditing activities in ministries, agencies and other management entities clearly specifies tasks in these important matters.

It is essential to approach from a party position the matter of increasing the responsibility of officials who fail to create conditions which would totally eliminate mismanagement, spoiling and damage to property, and abuse of office. Economics should be treated as economics — this task was stated by the 26th CPSU Congress. All attention must be focused on this. It is essential to close all the channels of possible losses and theft of state and public property, for which one should first of all put an end to a tolerant attitude toward such negative phenomena, with a sharper and more highly-principled response to the actions of persons who are not concerned for the interests of the state.

The local soviets should play a particularly important role in ensuring socialist rule of law, in protecting socialist property, and in stepping up the campaign against private-enterprise activity and criminal dealings. The soviets and their executive committees are called upon not only unswervingly to obey the laws in their area of responsibility but also to exercise continuous monitoring of adherence to the rule of law, as established by the state, on each and every kolkhoz,

sovkhoz, and at every enterprise. Pursuant to the law, rayon soviets have the right and obligation to declare null and void, when necessary, decisions and orders which are contrary to laws presently in force. But rayon soviets are not yet fully utilizing their capabilities to prevent law violations in a prompt and timely manner.

There is one other thing. There are organizations which, in a planned and scheduled manner, possessing appropriate information, engage in the organized recruitment of workers, including seasonal workers, for industrial enterprises. It is obviously high time to apply the planning principle of recruitment to the hiring of seasonal workers for agriculture, taking account of the specific features of this type of production. The experience amassed in providing industry with manpower can also be utilized in full measure in agriculture.

Procuratorship oversight over the observance of laws pertaining to protecting socialist property also in many cases fails to meet the demands of the present day. Some procuratorship personnel do not always respond in a prompt and vigorous manner to attempts to steal public property and do not seek to remove the causes and conditions which promote such violations, and do not seek harsh punishment of guilty parties. The republic procuratorship is implementing measures to boost the effectiveness of procuratorship oversight and to strengthen the campaign against mismanagement and theft of public property. Procurator activities are being given more publicity, which is helping create an atmosphere of public implacability and intolerance toward losses and inefficient utilization of resources, wastefulness, and toward dishonest persons who seek to profit at the expense of the state.

Vigorous joint efforts by government agencies and the public at large are a guarantee that any doors open to violations of law and state discipline can and must be closed permanently.

3024

CSO: 1811/56

REGIONAL

SERIOUS SHORTCOMINGS NOTED IN BELORUSSIAN TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

Kiselev, Ministers Meet

Minsk ZVYAZDA in Belorussian 30 May 81 p 1

[Article (BELTA): "Higher Educational Institutions and Scientific-Technological Advance"]

[Text] Ts. Ya. Kiselev, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the CP of Belorussia and candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, met on 28 May with V. P. Yelyutin, Minister of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education USSR, who was visiting Minsk.

They discussed several current problems of development of higher and secondary specialized education in light of the resolutions of the 26th CPSU Congress, and acceleration of scientific and technological advance. A. T. Kuz'min, secretary of the Central Committee of the CPB, Yu. P. Smirnov, head of the Department of Science and Educational Institutions of the Central Committee of the KPB, and M. M. Meshkov, Minister of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education BSSR, took part in the discussion.

That same day Ts. Ya. Kiselev, First Secretary of the CPB and candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, I. Ya. Polyakov, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, and V. P. Yelyutin, Minister of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education USSR, visited the international specialized Powder Metallurgy-81 Exhibit. They showed great interest, in particular, in displays by the Bulgarian companies Elektroimpeks and Vaptsarov. They discussed possibilities of joint activities in the area of powder metallurgy and cermet technology within the framework of Soviet-Bulgarian cooperation.

Also attending the exhibit were A. T. Kuz'min and L. S. Firysanau, secretaries of the CPB Central Committee, and D. A. Danilau, Deputy Chairman of the BSSR Council of Ministers. Explanatory commentary was given by A. V. Roman, general director of the Belorussian Republic Scientific-Production Association for Powder Metallurgy.

V. P. Yelyutin took part in the proceedings of the all-union scientific conference entitled "Advanced Industrial Processes in Powder Metallurgy" and presented a report at this conference on the scientific research program in the field of powder

metallurgy at this country's higher educational institutions. He also visited the Scientific Research Institute of Powder Metallurgy and the Belorussian State University imeni V. I. Lenin, and met with top administrative officials of higher educational institutions and specialized secondary schools. They discussed problems of further development and improvement of higher and secondary specialized education.

Meshkov Details Problems

Minsk ZVYAZDA in Belorussian 26 May 81 p 2

[Article by M. Meshkov, minister of higher and secondary specialized education BSSR: "If a Diploma Carried Weight and Substance"]

[Text] Certain positive changes took place during the years of the 10th Five-Year Plan within this republic's system of higher and secondary specialized education -- both quantitative and qualitative changes. Here are a few facts.

Three higher educational institutions were established -- Grodno State University, the Gomel' Cooperative Institute, and the Gomel' Polytechnic Institute. The total number of enrolled students rose. Training of personnel in a number of new areas of specialization was initiated. Several years ago, the first time in this republic, special faculties with a six-month curriculum were established at the Belorussian State University imeni V. I. Lenin and the Belorussian Polytechnic Institute. These new faculties train specialists in new and promising fields of science and technology on the basis of a higher education. Teaching methods centers were also established at these higher educational institutions. Their principal task is to draft recommendations on improving the quality of teaching the natural and technical sciences, for improving teaching methods activities, synthesis and dissemination of advanced know-how. There has occurred substantial improvement in planning of teaching and indoctrination activities, which assumed a comprehensive nature, the scientific and practical level of education has risen, and the forms and methods of teaching and indoctrination have become enriched with new content.

Socialist competition between educational institutions, which assumed a broad scope in the 10th Five-Year Plan, has done much to promote advance at this republic's higher and secondary specialized schools. In the course of this competition improved results were achieved by Belorussian State University, Belorussian Polytechnic Institute, and the Minsk State Pedagogic Institute imeni A. M. Gor'kiy.

The activities of this republic's higher and secondary specialized schools in the past five-year plan received good marks in the Central Committee Report to the 29th CPB Congress. We view the results of these efforts as a point of departure for successful accomplishment of the targets of the new five-year plan.

The main task of higher and secondary specialized education today is an all-out improvement in the level of training and education of young specialists, for the scientific and technological revolution, which is changing the character of labor, is also substantially altering the character of training and preparation for labor. Recently we have achieved progress in all areas of development of the education system. Teaching schedules and curricula have been regularly revised. Basic education has been substantially strengthened at our higher schools, and general-curriculum training at our secondary specialized schools.

However, comparing what has been achieved with the targets specified at the 26th CPSU Congress, we must acknowledge that the level of skills and knowledge of our specialists is not yet fully in conformity with needs. The latest advances in science and technology as well as advanced know-how in organization of production and management are not always reflected in the academic process. There is still retained an unwarranted gap in the level of preparation of graduates of various higher educational institutions and secondary specialized schools, as well as between specialists who have received their education with and without holding a job simultaneously. One must also be concerned by the fact that the graduates of some of our higher educational institutions do not possess thorough knowledge in the basic disciplines, possess a poor level of preparation in their chosen professional field, and are insufficiently well acquainted with the sociopsychological aspects of directing work forces.

The main obstacle in the path of improving quality of training specialists is the low level of organization of instructor teaching methods work. One is drawn precisely to this conclusion by a comparison of the activities of various higher educational institutions and secondary specialized schools as well as an analysis both of their successes and shortcomings.

As is indicated by the results of inspections, poorly organized teaching methods work with faculty has become the principal cause of many deficiencies in the educational process at the Novopolotsk Polytechnic Institute, the Mogilev Machine Building Institute, the Brest Construction Engineering Institute, the Mogilev Technological Institute, the Belorussian Theater Arts Institute, the Minsk Cultural Institute, plus certain other higher educational institutions. Many departments at these institutions fail to devote requisite attention to the development of full-value working curricular programs, while at the theater arts institute and institute of culture, in certain special subject areas no such curricular programs have been created at all, and teaching has been based on obsolete materials. Certain subjects were taught with old materials, although new materials were available, at the Brest Construction Engineering Institute. Open lectures and combined classes are rarely held in many departments of the above-named higher educational institutions, and they fail to address matters pertaining to problem teaching and activation of the intellectual activities of their students.

There are also serious shortcomings in the organization of teaching students practical matters dealing with production. When being sent to practical work assignments, many students are not provided with programs (Vitebsk Technological Institute of Light Industry, Theater Arts Institute, Belorussian Polytechnic Institute). Due to a lack of cooperation with enterprises, at a number of plants in Minsk and other cities students are utilized as bench workers during their period of practical work training.

Unquestionably with matters handled in this matter one cannot expect the required results as regards boosting the level of specialist training. This is why a primary task of the faculty and staff of higher educational institutions in the new five-year plan includes implementation of a combined approach to improving the content, organization and methods of teaching, and practical assimilation of purposeful management of the quality of specialist training. An important role here

should be played by curricular schedules and programs. Work on revising them is presently in progress. New curricular schedules and programs are prepared on the basis of qualifications reports, which state the requirements of the national economy, science and culture in specialist knowledge and skills. The importance of the basic subjects is to be increased. Special attention will be focused on development of knowledge of theory and developing in students the ability of scientific thought process, as well as the ability independently to gain their bearings in the flow of new scientific-technical and sociopolitical information. We should also further expand integration in the accomplishment of educational advance by higher educational institutions with enterprises of industry and agriculture, scientific and cultural establishments. For this reason it is necessary to strengthen and, where necessary, create new educational-scientific-production complexes and provide for organization at enterprises and establishments of branches of major departments of higher educational institutions.

As we know, the proceedings of the 26th CPSU Congress specify the task of development and improvement of evening and correspondence schooling. Training of personnel while maintaining productive employment compensates to a significant degree for the results of the demographic decline, at the same time expanding opportunities for workers to exercise their right to an education. Higher educational institution staffs should devote particular attention to this aspect of the matter.

The student pass rate is a general indicator of the quality and effectiveness of the academic process and of profound and firm student knowledge. The pass rate should be higher. We must overcome the undesirable trend toward growth in the number of students who have been permitted to enroll as freshmen with the condition that they make up academic deficiencies. Due to the high dropout rate, higher educational institutions are greatly undersupplying needed specialists to the nation's economy. Last year, for example, the Belorussian Theater Arts Institute, the Minsk Institute of Culture, the Brest Construction Engineering Institute, and Grodno State University failed to meet their specialist graduating quota.

These figures arouse serious concern. They indicate first and foremost substantial shortcomings in organization of the curricular process at a number of higher educational institutions and their lack of tie-in with the end results of their efforts. The diploma earned by a specialist should possess weight and meaning.

Entry by our society into the stage of developed socialism greatly increased the responsibility of our higher schools for Communist indoctrination of youth. Comprehensive planning of indoctrination work, student practical sociopolitical activities, and such effective forms of indoctrination as civic professions faculties, Lenin examination, and competitions for essays on sociopolitical topics have become permanent-fixture activities.

There are problems, however, in the area of Communist, ideological-political indoctrination of future specialists. As is indicated by state examinations on scientific communism, some students do not possess thorough knowledge of Marxist-Leninist theory and are poorly armed with the skills of discussion and debate and the ability to evaluate from a scientific position the phenomena of civic affairs. There are no secondary tasks in the area of Communist indoctrination. Therefore, considering in light of the resolutions of the 26th CPSU Congress the indoctrination

program of the new five-year plan, it is essential to employ without delay a comprehensive approach, organically combining all directions and areas of Communist indoctrination. At the same time it is important correctly to determine key elements. The conduct of ideological-political measures connected with study and execution of the resolutions of the 26th CPSU Congress should become such an element of indoctrination work, its leading focus this year and in the future.

Special concern must be devoted to the philosophical and ideological development of specialists and their mastery of materialist dialectics as the only correct method of cognizing and changing the world. For this it is essential to boost the level of instruction first of all of the social sciences, and to make every effort to make the sociopolitical knowledge of students into lasting convictions. At the same time efforts should be made to improve the philosophical and indoctrinational thrust in teaching the general scientific and specialized subjects. Extremely important today are innovative search in the area of indoctrination, careful study and broad dissemination of the best experience and know-how in this area. It is essential to ensure that the future specialist assimilates the truths of Marxism-Leninism in the example of his own profession, that he be cognizant of the profound bond between his chosen field of endeavor and the cause of building communism. We are required to organize indoctrination work in this manner by the party and by the resolutions of the 26th CPSU Congress, which emphasize that development in cadres of efficiency, responsibility, and initiative is a condition for accomplishment of the production program of the 11th Five-Year Plan.

3024

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REGIONAL

'COOPERATIVE' TECHNICAL TRAINING PROGRAM FOR CENTRAL ASIANS

Alma Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jul 81 p 3

[Article by V. Kolesnikov, first deputy minister of higher and secondary specialized education of Kazakh SSR, Alma Ata: "Student Cards--for Those Who are Worthy"]

[Text] The end of summer is a strenuous period in the operation of higher school. VUZ's receive new students--many tens of thousands of young people embark upon what is a new life for them. The republic's universities and institutes have opened wide their doors to secondary-school graduates. Documents are being received; talks and consultations have begun. More than 56,000 student cards will be issued to young people in the higher educational institutions of Kazakhstan. The future freshmen will have 193 specialties to choose from. These include a number of new ones that have come into existence because of the precipitous development of the national economy, science and culture.

A criterion of successful work of higher school is the level of graduates' preparation and their ability to solve complex problems of modern science and technology. This depends primarily on further improvement of the quality of tuition, which was referred to in the documents of the 26th CPSU Congress.

Experienced pedagogs know that the professional qualifications of the future specialists are largely determined by how demandingly and objectively competitive selections were made in filling up the first year courses of the educational institutions.

This is why professor-instructor collectives and party and Komsomol organizations of VUZ's consider the organization of admittances as a most important part of their work. Today it is clear that the problem of selection can only be solved through the joint efforts of higher educational institutions and schools in the course of vocational orientation of youth.

Forms of pre-VUZ training of students and working youth are being improved and enriched. "Open Door Days" have become traditional for seniors, and so have subject olympiads, talks by scientists and instructors at schools and over the radio and television, the publication of attractive booklets, prospectuses and information posters. New effective forms of vocational orientation, such as the organization of small academies, universities and evening subject schools and clubs, have been established.

The number of VUZ's has grown that train cadres according to direct ties, on the basis of contracts with ministries, enterprises and associations. Educational institutions of the republic's Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education alone have concluded 73 such contracts. A system of preparatory courses has been created for raising the general-educational preparation of worker and rural youth. They are to be found attached to 48 of the republic's VUZ's and are functioning at enterprises and rayon centers.

In the forming of a student contingent, a special place is given to preparatory divisions, which have been opened at 42 of the republic's VUZ's for leading worker youth.

As in former years, 79 of the republic's rayons have been granted the right to direct young men and women to noncompetitive admittance. More than 3,000 persons will be admitted on these conditions at 26 VUZ's of the republic in 56 specialties, which will make it possible for these rayons to obtain the specialists they need. Free preparatory courses have been organized at Kazakhstan's VUZ's in July for youths from remote rayons. Unfortunately, not all rayispolkoms are making effective use of the preferential opportunities granted them; they are frequently weak in sending trained youth.

Each year, the ministry sends students to the country's central VUZ's for the first course in studying specialties which are not taught in the republic. This year this practice will be continued. More than 300 persons have been selected on a noncompetitive basis for 95 specialties at 59 of the country's VUZ's.

No significant changes have been made for 1981 in rules of admittance. As before, the basic criterion for admittance to the first course will be the results of competitive entrance examinations and an average mark on the school certificate.

Graduates of vocational-technical schools who received diplomas with distinction may enter a VUZ of the country on graduation from a vocational-technical school. A diploma with distinction issued by a vocational-technical school provides on entrance into a VUZ the same benefits as a school medal. VUZ's are permitted to accept certificates with distinction on completion of technical schools on the same level as diplomas with distinction.

On the basis of the results of an experiment conducted for a number of years on a countrywide scale, VUZ's are granted the right to determine on their own the specialties for which persons, who have an evaluation of "excellent" or "good" and an average mark of no lower than 4.5 on the secondary-education document and who have taken two entrance examinations and received marks of no less than 9, are released from further taking of examinations.

Graduates of rural schools obtain a number of privileges on entering VUZ's and tekhnikums. Thus, they are permitted to write an exposition or dictation instead of a theme composition if they have studied the Russian language on the scope of a program of the national school and are embarking on the specialty of Russian language and literature with an additional specialty; history with an additional specialty; pedagogy and psychology (preschool), defectology, philosophy, political economy, pedagogy and methods of primary instruction, jurisprudence.

Graduates of rural schools, who have not studied a foreign language or who have studied within the framework of the program of the incomplete secondary school are released from taking a foreign-language entrance examination (on the presentation of a mark of "3").

At a number of VUZ's this year, admittance for the republics of Central Asia will be carried out on the basis of a plan of cooperative training of specialists. Thus, for study at Tashkent Polytechnic Institute for the specialty woodworking technology enrollment of secondary-school graduates will be conducted at Alma Ata Architectural Construction Institute, for a number of food-industry specialties—at the Alma Ata branch of Dzhambul Technological Institute of Light and Food Industry, for the specialty technology of the use of water and fuel at thermal electric power stations—at Alma Ata Institute of Power Engineering.

At Kirghiz State University for the specialties of merchandising and organization of trading in manufactured goods and foodstuffs, enrollment will be carried out at Alma Ata Institute of National Economy, Tashkent State University imeni A. Biruni for the specialty of geochemistry—at Kazakh University imeni S.M. Kirov.

This year the list will be expanded of acutely scarce specialties for which students who have been awarded gold medals and graduates of secondary specialized and vocational-technical educational institutions who have diplomas with distinction will be accepted without entrance examinations. True, the outline of their pre-VUZ training has to be in agreement with the presently elected specialty. Admittance to 24 acutely scarce specialties will be conducted at 14 VUZ's and two branches. Such specialties include the specialty technology and equipment for prospecting for minerals and also a number of specialties in the petroleum and gas industry, mining [gornaya] and nonferrous metallurgy, railroad transport and agriculture.

And so, the VUZ's are awaiting secondary-school graduates. The results of last year's enrollment are being critically and demandingly analyzed. Subject examination commissions have been established early; their staffs have been renewed in accordance with normative requirements. At all VUZ's examination materials and methodological directives for criteria in the evaluation of answers of the graduates have been prepared; lists have been compiled of supplementary questions that will be given to the graduates. Close attention was paid to the correspondence of examination cards to programs of secondary school.

In preparing for the new enrollment, VUZ's exactly selected examiners from among experienced, authoritative professors and instructors for the purpose of excluding nonobjectivity from admittance examinations. The ministry's top leadership held meetings with members of admittance and examination commissions of a number of VUZ's in Alma Ata; instructive conferences were organized for VUZ regions of the republic, and the personnel of the admittance and examination commissions of each educational institution were examined personally.

On days documents are received and entrance examinations are held at all educational institutions, public admittance commissions are in operation; they hold talks with secondary-school graduates and elucidate vocational and social interests; a precise schedule is established of receptions by members of the admittance commission; also an information service was organized.

As last year, the processing of statistical information on admittances will be done with the help of computers at 11 VUZ's of the republic.

Counting on wide-scale publicity and objectivity of evaluations, we cannot forget that in this work much depends on tact, attention and good will of the examiners and the technical secretariat. Steps have been taken so that complaints and disputed cases are effectively handled by the conflict commission of a VUZ. Efficient control over this work is to be exercised by the ministry.

Keeping up to strength of higher schools is a matter of great public importance. The republic's VUZ's are getting ready to admit new students in such a way that all participants of the competition have equal conditions for displaying their possibilities. Student cards should be given only to the most worthy.

7697

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REGIONAL

LATVIAN KOLKHOZ FAMILY BUDGET

Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 31 May 81 p 2

[Article by Candidate of Economics Ya. Vitols, assistant professor at Leningrad State University: "The Family Budget"]

[Text] I once read in a magazine a story about the life of an ordinary worker's family, and there was a detailed analysis of the family's budget and all its income and expenditure.

Studies are probably being conducted in our republic also on the family budget. It would be interesting to learn about this in more detail.

A. Stepanova.

This is a subject of interest to many of our readers. Taking their wishes into consideration, we publish the article of Candidate of Economics Ya. Vitols.

Data on the budgets of more than 60,000 families are collected and analyzed annually in the USSR. The budgets of approximately 1,000 families--different in socioeconomic type, but together reliably reflecting the overall picture--are studied in our republic. The data obtained are employed extensively in the compilation of future plans and for a study of emerging patterns, which testify not only to big and undisputed achievements but also to unsolved problems. I would like to dwell in a little more detail on certain trends.

Statistics graphically confirm that simultaneously with a constant growth of the families' income there is also a rapid increase in the proportion thereof obtained for work in social production. Currently of every R100 in the budget of the workers and employees of our republic, R85 are obtained from wages, and in rural families R55 out of R100 for work in the public economy of the kolkhoz. This indicator increased by approximately one-fourth in the last 5-year plan. This testifies to the increased stability of the family income and that confidence in the future rests on a firm material foundation.

The amounts obtained from the social consumption funds in the form of benefits, grants and other payments are an important supplement to the Soviet family's income.

Every 10th ruble of the family budget is obtained thus. The relative significance of pensions is particularly great—they extend to increasingly broad groups of the population (in the 10th Five-Year Plan alone the number of pensioners in our republic increased by 47,000), and the amount of the pension is increasing—in the last 5-year plan pensions in our republic were increased for more than 121,000 people, and R11.4 million were added to the family budgets.

A CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers decree was promulgated recently on measures to increase state assistance to families with children and also on measures for a further improvement in the population's social security. As of this year partially paid leave will be introduced in stages by region of the country for mothers to look after children until they reach the age of 12 months, and a number of other measures has been outlined which will have a salutary effect on almost every family with young children, and this will bring closer to a certain extent the income levels of childless families and families with children.

However, orientation only toward sums obtained from the state and the kolkhoz has assumed such overwhelming significance that it has superseded the proportion of income from the private subsidiary farms. This part of the income declined by approximately 12 percent on average for a family of a worker or employee in our republic in the last 5-year plan and currently constitutes only 3 percent of total income. In kolkhoz members' families a good third of all income was derived at the start of the 5-year plan from the attached subsidiary farm, where milk, meat, vegetables and potatoes were produced for themselves and partially for sale. This indicator now constitutes approximately one-fourth of the family's total income. The situation is now starting to right itself thanks to wide-ranging state measures. The party and the Soviet Government are paying the closest attention to the development of the private subsidiary farms.

A strong trend can be observed toward a reduction in the differentiation of the budgets--the levels of well-being of urban and rural inhabitants are drawing closer together. Thus whereas in the last 5-year plan the level of income of workers and employees (per family) rose by approximately 7 percent, thanks to the particular concern of the party and government for the development of agriculture, this indicator reached 14 percent for the families of kolkhoz members. And now the income in rural families in the republic not only does not lag behind but even exceeds somewhat that of the families of workers and employees.

This economic aspect is reducing appreciably the outflow of people from the villages. It is also interesting that the countryside is currently spending resources more rapidly and willingly than the city on the purchase of cultural-everyday commodities and clothing and on services, although the level of this expenditure still lags behind the city level somewhat. Most money is assigned the augmentation and replacement of the wardrobe. One out of every 5 rubles goes on this on average in the families of workers and employees, and one out of every 6 among kolkhoz members.

As statistics testify, in the past 10-15 years there has been a considerable increase in the population's amount of footwear and clothing, in other words, the opportunity has arisen of dressing better, according to fashion, age and season. But at the same time the problem of an improvement in the assortment and quality of the goods is acute, as before, and the demands made of them increase as the economic potential of life increases.

Other "problems of the wardrobe" which are not only of an economic but also a moral nature have also arisen. An unduly profound reverence of fashion frequently compels the acquisition of things whose practical value far from corresponds to the price. For example, it is sometimes difficult to understand into which column to put expenditure on imported jeans acquired as castoffs, although the "overgrown child" simply cannot live without them. Record players, stereo tape recorders and other just as costly items given as a gift to a young man who has not reached maturity and made no contribution to the overall family budget only mold in him a consumerist attitude toward life long before, as a man, he himself learns to create material values. Mention should also be made of other troubling data. Thus 6.5 times more of the family budget is spent on tobacco products than on medicines. If treatment of the illnesses caused by smoking and excessive alcohol consumption had to be paid for by the guilty party himself, it is possible that the amount of this spending would decline.

The statistics of the family budget confirm the tremendous social successes which our republic's working people have achieved in the years of Soviet power. The most striking figures are connected with expenditure on housing. According to the data of 1936, in bourgeois Latvia a worker had to pay an average of 11.9 percent of his total income for an apartment, although this amount was greater in many cases in practice. Now two-thirds of the resources spent on the maintenance of housing are covered by the state. And only 2.7 percent of the family budget of workers and employees goes on rent. Only under the conditions of socialism has the heavy burden of expenditure on rent been removed from the working people's shoulders, and this is one of the most significant of our social gains. A policy of the further upsurge of the people's well-being was firmly outlined at the 26th party congress. In accomplishing the tasks put forward by the congress we will strengthen even more not only the might of the country but also satisfy more fully each Soviet family's material and cultural requirements.

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